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HISTORY  
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ASHLEMAN FAMILY





Tucson, Arizona  
Post Box 5415  
November 25, 1952

# The History of an

## ASHLEMAN FAMILY

Dear Relative:

Here is just a short history of the Ashleman family. It is ready for your inspection. I hope you will find it interesting. Much time has been spent in preparing it.

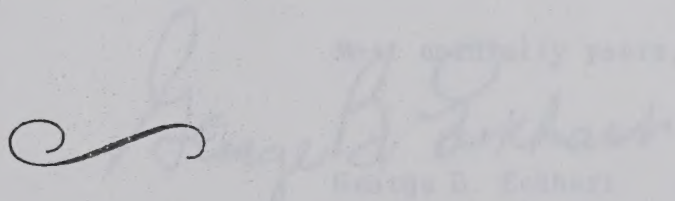
You will find some details in detail. I hope when you do find them you will enjoy them, and later I will send a short summary of all the Ashleman family to you. I would be glad to hear from you if you like the book.

I wish to thank you again for your help in the preparation of this manuscript. I have enjoyed my work in connection with it and have a pleasure and an inspiration to me in the history of your family. I have received many old acquaintances and have met new ones.

This letter will be sent to you by the post or by mail you have received. They are printed at 10.00 each. You may wish to check or order to the above address.

Although it is somewhat lengthy, my I hope this occasion to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Very cordially yours,

  
George D. Ashleman







THE HISTORY OF AN ASHLEMAN FAMILY

The Story of John Ulrich and  
Martha Elizabeth Ashleman.  
They came to America from  
Switzerland in 1832 to seek  
a new home and new  
opportunities.

Tucson, Arizona  
Post Box 5315  
November 25, 1952

Compiled and Edited by  
George B. Eckhart  
(Grandson of Martha Ellen Ashleman)

Dear Relative:

Here is your book, "The History of an Ashleman Family". It is ready for your inspection. I hope you will like it. There have been many hours of work spent by several members of the family in preparing it.

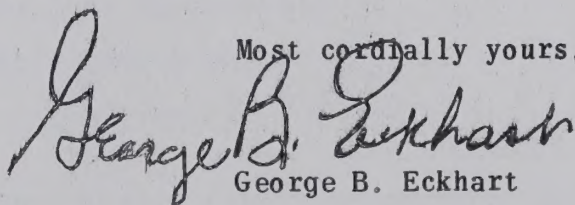
You will find some errors, no doubt. I hope when you do find them you will advise me, and later I will send a sheet comprising them to all who have the book. Please cooperate with me in this matter. I would be glad to hear from all of you as to how you like the book.

I wish to thank you again for your help in the preparation of this manuscript. I have enjoyed my work on it immensely. It has been a pleasure and an inspiration to me to have had your fine letters. I have renewed many old acquaintances and made some new ones.

This letter will be your bill for the book or books you have received. They are priced at \$3.00 each. You may remit by check or money order to the above address.

Although it is somewhat premature, may I take this occasion to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Most cordially yours,

  
George B. Eckhart

Manuscript by  
The Ashleman Shop  
Bryan, Texas  
1952







# THE HISTORY OF AN ASHLEMAN FAMILY

The Story of John Ulrich and  
Maria Ebberhart Ashleman.  
They came to America from  
Switzerland in 1832 to seek  
a new home and new  
opportunities.

Compiled and Arranged by  
George Boland Eckhart  
(Grandson of Barbara Ellen Ashleman)

Many members of the family have been most helpful in furnishing the material for this book. To all of you who have helped, I wish to express my heartiest thanks. Your letters were most interesting and I have received much pleasure and encouragement from them. I feel that mention should be made of the help given me by two of the relatives, who have spent long hours searching records, writing long letters and digging into details to make this book more complete. My special gratitude goes to cousin Lona Krum and to cousin George Speer for their diligent work.

In the spelling of proper names I have found that there is disagreement. This is also true in the matter of dates and places. Where such is the case, who shall decide? I do not claim to be infallible, but in cases of doubt, I have given, to the best of my ability, what seemed to be the most reasonably correct version. Unavoidable errors are bound to appear. I trust you will forgive me in making them.

G.B.E.

Mimeographed by  
The Scribe Shop  
Bryan, Texas  
1952







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## A SHORT HISTORY OF INDIANA AND DeKALB COUNTY

It was one hundred fifty years after Columbus discovered America before any portion of the present state of Indiana was explored by white men. Wild Indians were the only inhabitants. In 1670 the first French explorers, fur traders, and missionaries came from Canada and, traveling by way of the Great Lakes and the Maumee, Wabash and Mississippi rivers, reached the Gulf of Mexico. This route was well known and traveled before the Ohio river was discovered.

Vincennes was settled in 1710. At the Treaty of Paris in 1763, Great Britain secured all land east of the Mississippi River and south of the Great Lakes. In 1765 there was a small white settlement at the point where the Maumee and the St. Joe rivers came together to form the Saint Marys River. A brisk trade with the Indians had sprung up here and in 1794 General Anthony Wayne, with a group of American soldiers, established Fort Wayne. The United States came into possession of this land from Great Britain.

The Northwest Territory was created by Congress in 1789. Major General Arthur St. Clair took up his duties in 1788 at what is now Marietta, Ohio. The Territory of Indiana was organized by act of Congress in 1800 and William Henry Harrison was made the first Governor, presiding with Vincennes as the seat of Government. The first Legislature convened in 1805. Indiana became a state on April 9, 1816. The population in 1810 was 24,520 and by 1816 it had grown to 63,879. By 1825 this was doubled to almost 130,000 people. In 1832 the Wabash and Erie Canal was begun from Fort Wayne south and west. By 1841 the canal was 129 miles long and ran from the state line on the east to Tippecanoe. The years from 1825 thru 1830 were very prosperous, and immigration increased, and bountiful crops came to the residents and settlers.

DeKalb County is in the extreme northeastern section of the state, being the second county south from the Michigan line and adjoining the Ohio line. The county comprises 369 square miles. Its length is 18 miles in a north and south direction and  $21\frac{1}{2}$  miles in an east and west measurement. It was originally covered with a fine growth of hardwood timber. It has a few small lakes within its borders. There was considerable marshy and swampy ground and the dense woods were almost impassable. To quote an early account, "Many difficulties were encountered in getting into the county in the early days. If the emigrant came by wagon he had to cut and make his own roads. If he came by river he sometimes met with shipwreck". DeKalb County was organized by the State Legislature in the winter of 1836-1837. Fort Wayne, the county seat of Allen County, 26 miles to the south, was the point of supply for the new section. Two routes were available, one by the St. Joe river and the other by Indian Trails winding thru the dense woods and around the swamps.

At the end of the War of 1812 there was a trace thru the woods from Fort Wayne to Fort Dearborn (Chicago). There was a trail leading southeast into Ohio known as "Wayne's Trace". Other than this, the streams were the only means of travel. In 1819 Fort Wayne had less than thirty dwellings but it was crowded with white men who came to trade with the Indians. They also came to take up the land. There was a United States Land Office there which was opened in 1822. Land could be "entered" from the Government for as low as \$1.25 per acre. A great deal of this land was bought by speculators and resold for two and three dollars an acre.





The first settler in DeKalb County was John Houlton. He came in 1833 with three men and a yoke of oxen. They cleared a space and built a cabin on section one, Franklin Township, on Fish Creek. This was in the northeastern part of the county.

During 1834 eight pioneers moved in by way of Fort Wayne. They cut the roads from Allen County thru to Butler Township. The St. Joe River was the main channel for much of the settlement, and Spencerville and Orangeville were settled in 1836. The Widney family came to Newville at this time.

In early years provisions were scarce. There were but few families that did not know the pinch of hunger without immediate means to satisfy it. Potatoes were substituted for bread. Many times it became necessary to eat greens picked from the forest and cooked with milk and beech bark. To quote again, "The country around offered no supplies except the inconsiderable amount yielded by the chase, and a very small amount of corn grown in the bottom lands and in the immediate vicinity of settlements. The chief supply of provisions and provender and almost every necessity of life had to be brought, mostly from Miami County, Ohio. This came by way of Saint Marys, Ohio, being brought by wagons to the latter place and thence to Fort Wayne by flatboat on the Saint Marys river. The danger and the difficulties that attended the shipment of supplies thru this channel can hardly be conceived at the present day. Imagine men with loaded teams struggling thru swamps and interminable mud, day after day, lodging in the wilderness by night; then conceive the perils of boating on a crooked narrow stream, thru dense forests, beset with fallen timber, and other obstructions its whole course". It took three days at this time to go from Auburn to Fort Wayne and back. Now less than one hour will make the trip.

The first person to build on the sight of Auburn was Wesley Parks who arrived in 1836. He built a shanty ten by twelve feet near Cedar creek. He entered the land and built a trail thru to Pleasant Lake where he secured a load of trade goods. He laid out the town of Auburn in two parallel streets and numerous cross streets. He gave a lot to each settler who would build thereon. In 1837 Parks, with a man named Ogden, built a saw mill on Cedar creek. This was later made into a steam mill. The second house was built by a man named Ingman and he planted trees around about. The third home was built by John F. Coburn who became the first County Clerk and Recorder.

A Mr. Comstock opened the first store. Parks was appointed Sheriff by the Governor. At this time flour sold for fourteen dollars a barrel, corn three dollars a bushel and salt two and a quarter a bushel. One man took a contract to clear land for five dollars an acre. Wesley Parks soon put up a larger cabin, 18 x 20 ft. in size, and a story and a half. The attic was used as a jail. This building served also as a hotel, courthouse, and a cooking room. By 1837 there were thirty families settled in the county.

Receiving assurance that Auburn would be selected as the county seat, Parks donated one-third of the town lots to be sold to provide money to build a court house. In 1838 bids were put out and James Hite was selected to build the building. It was 30 x 40 feet with a projection over the front. The cost was \$800.00. It is of interest to note that the bidder was assisted in the erecting of the frame by Lyman Chidsley. Mr. Chidsley's daughter, Aurelia, later became the wife of William Ashleman, son of John and Maria Ashleman.





The first doctor was Dr. Ross. Dr. K.H. Ford came shortly after. In 1844 the population was 74 persons. In 1849 there were 50 homes and 500 people. At the close of the Civil War, Auburn had six or seven hundred people and consisted of "quiet tree-lined streets with a courthouse, an academy and a woolen mill". Hacks ran to Fort Wayne and Waterloo. The very best of black walnut lumber and poplar sold for five or six dollars a thousand feet and had few takers. In clearing the land the logs and brush were piled up and burned and the ashes sold to asheries for six cents a bushel. Here they were leached and the lye made into potash for use in soap making.

"There was a time when the pioneers waded thru heavy snows, across bridgeless rivers and thru bottomless sloughs, a score of miles to mill or market, and when more time was required to reach and return from market than is now required to cross the continent. These were the times when our homes were constructed of logs covered with shakes riven from the forest trees. These were the times when our children were stowed away for the night in low, dark attics among the horns of the deer and the elk, and where, thru the chinks in the shakes they could count the stars a twinkle. These were the times when our chairs and bedsteads were hewn from the forest trees, and the tables and bureau were constructed from the boxes in which goods were brought into the country. These were the times when the working man labored six and sometimes seven days in a week and all the hours from sunrise to sunset".

In 1873 Wesley Parks became the first Postmaster. In fact, he held almost all of public offices at one time or another in the early days. The taxes for the town in 1848, were \$18,337.29. Mr. Parks taught the first Sunday School. He assisted the Rev. Samuel Reid to establish the first church of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. The population in 1880 was 1542 persons.

In 1863 a new courthouse was built at a cost of \$23,372.00. It was of brick construction with steel beams and a high tower over the entrance. The first floor consisted of 4 offices, two on either side of a hall that ran thru from east to west. Each office contained a fireproof vault. On the second floor were the court rooms. The tower was eighty feet high and the bell in it weighed 600 pounds. There was a flag pole atop the tower.

The first railroad to come into the county was the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern which ran east and west thru the northern part. The first train arrived at Butler (then known as Morristown) in 1855. The line was built on west thru Waterloo and Corunna and finally into Chicago. In 1870 the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw arrived, running north from Fort Wayne into Michigan. One of the first roads to be projected, but the fourth to be built, was the Detroit, Eel River and Illinois. This ran from Logansport, Ind. to Butler. It reached Auburn in 1872. In 1875 the B & O was built through St. Joe and Auburn Jct. and went on west through Garrett and eventually into Chicago. Garrett was made a division point and named after the president of the company, John W. Garrett.

An old atlas of 1876 lists the following business concerns: Rose & Hartman, Attys. at Law; S.W. Spratt, Boots & Shoes; R.W. Weamer, Editor; John L. Lewis, Hardware & Stoves.





In 1885 the business directory of Auburn included:

Hebel Brothers, Grocery	A.J. Ralston, Grocery
John R. Moody, Auburn House	J.M. Yesbera, Tailor
John Aber, Photographer	R.H. Weamer, Editor & Publisher
Ranier & Headly, Meat Market	Schaab & Beugnot, Groceries
J.H. Gugerli, Merchant Tailor	Ensley & Harter, Dry Goods
	Brown & Culbertson, Musical Instruments

The first National Bank was organized in 1874. Wm. H. McIntyre was the first cashier. The Farmers Bank was started in 1885 with Ablert Robbins as cashier, and as directors, Mr. Robbins, Nicholas Ensley, C.C. Henry and Guy Plum.

In 1885 the legal profession consisted of: W.J. Penfield, James E. Rose, Ezra D. Hartman, Thomas A. Sprott, D.D. Moody, P.V. Hoffman and John Baxter.

In the same year the doctors were: J.H. Ford, J.A. Cown, Casebeer & Matheeny, D.J. Swartz, Mrs. Vesta Swartz, W.S. Allen, J.V. Lewis.

From this condensed picture of Auburn and the county, it will be easier to get a background view of the community in which our ancestors lived.





## INTRODUCTION TO THE ASHLEMAN FAMILY HISTORY

When I first began the history of the family, I had in mind more or less of a chronological list of births, deaths, names and addresses of the past and present members of the family. However, as letters from the relatives came in with many interesting incidents and personal recollections, it became apparent that the story would be much more valuable and entertaining if these items were included for all to enjoy. With this thought in mind, I have tried to be as informal as possible. Naturally there will be errors and some disagreements with regard to dates and details, so I will try to be as generous as possible with everyone's opinion.

One thing is apparent at the start. We all come from an exceptionally fine background. While our forefathers and ourselves, generally speaking, have not gained any outstanding prominence in this world (with perhaps a few exceptions) we have all been far above the average class of people. We can look with deep pride upon our family and their excellent behavior in society in general.

Along this line it is interesting to note an item contributed by cousin Lona Krum which I quote: "One tradition that stands out as a fact is that three hundred or more years ago, in Switzerland, during the Inquisition, one of our great grandmothers left the Roman Catholic faith, (or refused to join it) and since she would not join she was hidden in the attic of her home for three years to avoid being boiled in oil. It is pleasant to think that she had the courage of her convictions. As far as I know the family in its entirety are all Protestants".

We have a message from our grandmother, Maria. In possession of cousin George Speer there is a faded sheet of paper written upon in ink and signed with her maiden name, Maria Ebberhart. Below is her daughter, Anna Walker's handwriting: "This is my mother's handwriting." This is on the paper, "I give you a new word unto each other, so your brother will get heavenly heritage, so we all belong to our heavenly father's house, and make you ready for your home in heaven by your brother. Be ready to die when the time comes. Come storm and death alone, the Lord is with you."

Maria Everhart was born, as nearly as we can tell, near Basle in Switzerland on June 20, 1810. John Ulrich Ashleman, or it may have been Aeschleminn at that time, we believe was also born near Basle in 1791. He was in the dairy business. We have reason to think they met and were married in Basle. Records of them are not available in Berne or Basle. It is supposed they moved to Berne shortly after their marriage.

Two children were born to them in Switzerland. The first child, whose name we do not know, was a girl. This child was buried at sea on the journey to America. There is no other information available on this first child. Elizabeth, the second child, was born in Bern in 1832. The Ashlemans decided to immigrate to America because of the opportunities it offered to those who were willing to work long and hard for the future. There may also have been a religious reason but of this we can not be sure.





In 1832 this family of four set out to leave their native land. There is an account in an old History of DeKalb County, of the year 1885, of an interesting incident. I quote, "After getting ready to start for America Mr. Ashleman's trunk was robbed of its contents including all his money. His friends assisted him, but he arrived in a strange country with no means. He was possessed of a large amount of energy, and went bravely to work, and was eminently successful in accumulating a large landed estate, owning at his death 900 acres of land."

An old photograph of Great Grandmother Maria shows her to have been quite austere and dignified. She must have been a very remarkable woman. She was, we know, a devout Christian. She worked early and late in the fields and in her home. In this old picture her hair is parted in the middle, drawn down tightly on either side and fastened in the back. She has a little white cap on her head and black lace mitts. Her dress is of a loud checkered pattern with a high white collar and cuffs. The collar and cuffs are embroidered. The white cap has broad black ribbons which are tied under her chin and hang down the front of her dress. She has a book in her hands which, no doubt, is the Holy Bible. The embroidery on her costume was probably done by daughter Regina (suggests cousin Nellie Kimmel) as Aunt Regina was especially talented in this kind of work.

We do not know much about John Ulrich. We have no photograph of him. He was extremely thrifty, of that we can be sure. There were few, if any, farmers with better kept homes and farms than the Ashlemans. The fact that John and Maria were able to leave each of their nine living children eighty acres of fine cleared farm land as a heritage, is evidence enough of this. When one thinks back and realizes the amount of work connected with the clearing and draining of this acreage, it is incredible, considering the primitive tools available at the time. It was backbreaking labor. The women went into the fields (and into the barns) along side of their men and toiled from early morn until late at night. In addition to this, it must be remembered they raised a large family. They had what it takes.

The Ashlemans came first to Wayne County, Ohio. We have a record of John buying land there in August, 1833. Their third child, Moses, was born near Wooster in 1834. Five more children were born here. In 1836 John journeyed to DeKalb Co., Indiana, where he entered three parcels of land of 160 acres each at the Government Land Office in Fort Wayne and paid for it. The title to this land was signed by President Van Buren and it was made out on a sheepskin document. John made some arrangements to have this land cleared and returned to Ohio. It is probable that he paid the going price, at that time, of \$1.25 per acre. The article on DeKalb County will give some understanding of the conditions prevalent at this time.

One account says that when John arrived there were but three houses in Auburn and that he assisted Wesley Parks in laying out the town site of Auburn. This is most likely as John was an energetic person, the type who would give any assistance he could to a good cause. Another account says he lived with some friendly Indians while his house was being built. We have no way of knowing if this was in 1836 or in 1843 when he brought the family here to live.





At the time they moved to Indiana, 1843, the Erie and Wabash Canal was in operation. It is reasonable to suppose the family traveled by this route from Ohio. They may have driven overland by wagons to the Maumee River, then thru the Canal to Fort Wayne. From there they no doubt drove with their teams to DeKalb County. This same year John bought additional land amounting to 200 acres. The complete land story will be told in another article. So also will the story of the old Homestead. When the family came to Auburn, Elizabeth was eleven and she witnessed the opening of the first grave in the town. This cemetery was located south, across the road, from Evergreen Cemetery.

John Ulrich died in February, 1856, at the age of sixty-four years. A copy of his will is in the history. Only Elizabeth was married at the time. She was 24 and Moses was 22 years of age. Barbara was 20, Mary 18, Regina 15, Anna 14, and William 13 years of age. Christopher was only 11 and Rosa six. This was a great responsibility for Maria to carry. She rose to the occasion and kept her family and her property intact until her death eight years later.

Maria passed away on October 3, 1864. It now remained for the children to carry on for themselves. The younger 7 were still unmarried. Barbara was 28, Mary 26, Regina 22, William 21 and Christopher and Rosa minors. They all rose to the occasion again and made out all right. After a family conference it was decided to send Rosa to a convent in Fort Wayne. Here she learned to write a nice hand, embroider, paint, and other lady-like occupations. She was the baby of the family and was raised like a lady. She never did housework and other hard tasks prevalent around a farm.

It is interesting to note that, with the exception of Elizabeth, Moses and Rosa, the other children, especially the girls, were married at an age that, in those times, would be considered quite old. Barbara was 30, Mary 28, Regina 27, and Anna 29. William was only 24, but Christopher was 29. The reason no doubt was because of the early demise of the parents and the necessity for all to stick together and help each other at home. Barbara was the eldest unmarried, and she with the help of her older brother Moses, must have taken charge after the death of the mother.

Cousin Lona Krum visited all of the living children in the nineteen twenties. She made special effort at this time to secure all the dates and other information at first hand. Dates on the tombstones and even family records are often very confusing. Due to this fact, I am taking the dates given to cousin Lona by the children themselves. This is the only birth record which will work out so that there is sufficient time between births to make them possible. Cousin Lona says; "All of the old Aunties were of the old school; (those that I knew), were stubborn, set in their ways and saving, but all fine rugged characters. All were very patient."

A letter from Angus McCoy, husband of Pearl, contains a paragraph that I feel is very well taken and sums up an interesting angle. I quote, "The period during which John and Maria and their children lived from about 1832 to 1932, these two generations, practically marked an epoch in the history of America, as well as being one hundred years in length. The Ashleman family was truly representative of the things that made America great. They were hard workers, dependent only upon themselves, asking help from no paternal government, but willing at the same time to extend help to their neighbors who were in need.





Frugal and saving yes, but not penurious. I have often remarked in private conversation and in speeches, that what made America great --at least up to 1932-- was the fact that we had more than one hundred people working as individuals to provide for their own security and leave for posterity some of the fruits of their labor. It seems a singular coincidence that with the death of the second generation we begin to receive from Washington the false philosophy that you can get something for nothing, or at least you should do as little as you can for yourself and Uncle Sam will do the rest.

Our ancestors have been the salt of the earth and the kind of folks who are the backbone of the country. They have worked to make this country great. They have stood solidly for all that is good and right. And so it is. They were and are all wonderful folks. We can be mighty proud of them and the fine ideals and high standards they have set for us to follow.

And so, I give you the ASHLEMAN FAMILY.

George B. Eckhart  
Tucson, Arizona - 1952.





PHOTOGRAPH OF THE NINE ASHLEMAN CHILDREN

TAKEN ABOUT 1882

Standing, L to R: Anna, Regina, Mary, William, Barbara, Christopher  
Seated: Elizabeth, Moses, Rosa





# CHART OF IMPORTANT DATES

The following dates have been arrived at with a great deal of care and effort. They do not, in all cases, agree with the dates on tombstones. It has been definitely proved that tombstone dates are not reliable, especially dates of birth, and in many cases, impossible. Cousin Lona Krum visited all of the living Ashleman children in the early 1920's and received these from their own lips.

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Age at Death</u>
John Ulrich Ashleman	Nov. 1791	Feb. 17, 1856	64 yrs.
Maria Everhart Ashleman	June 20, 1810	Oct. 3, 1864	54 yrs.

Migrated to America in 1832. Settled in Indiana in 1843.

The oldest child, a girl, was buried at sea on the trip to America. There is no other information available on her.

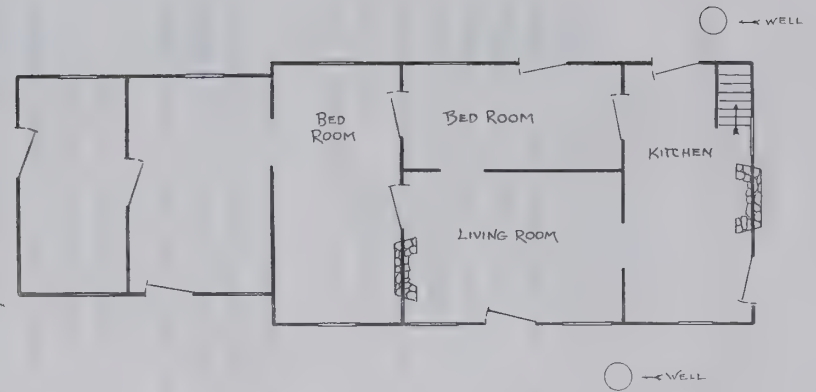
	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Age at Death</u>
Elizabeth	May 3, 1832	Sept. 26, 1906	74
Moses	Aug. 10, 1834	Sept. 15, 1888	54
Barbara	Nov. 13, 1836	Sept. 10, 1903	67
Mary	Oct. 12, 1838	Jan. 14, 1933	95
Regina	June 15, 1841	Apr. 10, 1925	84
Anna	Dec. 25, 1842	Mar. 2, 1928	84
William	Nov. 27, 1843	Aug. 26, 1912	69
Christopher	Aug. 19, 1845	Aug. 10, 1927	82
Rosa	Feb. 28, 1850	Jan. 23, 1945	95

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Age at Father's Death</u>	<u>Age at Mother's Death</u>	<u>Date Married</u>	<u>Age Married</u>
Elizabeth	1832	24	32	1854	22
Moses	1834	22	30	1865	31
Barbara	1836	20	28	1866	30
Mary	1838	18	26	1866	28
Regina	1841	15	23	1868	27
Anna	1842	14	22	1871	29
William	1843	13	21	1868	24
Christopher	1845	11	19	1873	21
Rosa	1850	6	14	1871	21

Elizabeth was born in Switzerland. Christopher and Rosa in Indiana. The others were born in Ohio.







AN ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF THE OLD ASHLEMAN HOMESTEAD

*Elizabeth Weaver Miles*



## FAMILY LIFE IN THE EARLY YEARS

It is interesting to look back and imagine what life was like when our grandparents came to Indiana. Let us look into the old home.

The old home was built on a knoll, about a mile east of Auburn. It faced the south. Across the road still stands the old barn built by grandfather in 1844. The home was built at that time or shortly after. The original house was of two stories and contained four rooms downstairs. The entire upper story was one room. On the west side, a one-story addition was built. This contained two rooms. It was moved across the road in 1868 to make a home for son William and wife when he married. This part still stands today in the rear and attached to the brick home that William built in later years. The old house is gone. The land it stood on has been subdivided and streets and lots laid out and built upon.

The house was covered with sawed board siding running parallel to the ground. It came, most likely, from the saw mill on Cedar Creek owned by Wesley Parks. It may have been painted, but at least not in later years, for those who recall it say the boards were weathered to a dark brown shade.

On the east end of the house was the kitchen, running the full depth of the house, and measuring about 20 by 30 feet. Fireplaces were centered in the east & west walls. They were large enough to take a five-foot log. There was a door near the southeast corner, and in the northeast corner was a stairway leading to the second floor. The house was plastered inside and the space between that & the siding chinked with mud. No doubt some of the meals were cooked in the fireplace until the family was able to procure a stove. Stoves were very scarce in those days and not every family, by any means, was fortunate enough to own one. The household centered around this room and the meals were probably eaten here. Family conferences were held around the table and important decisions made.

The upper room had no partitions and the beds were arranged along the walls on either side. One relative writes: "The girls all slept up here." No doubt this was also used as a store room for many of the food stuffs. We know John kept his seed corn here.

West of the kitchen were two rooms; the larger one facing south was a living room or a parlor. Behind this was a bedroom. West of this and comparable in size to the kitchen was another bedroom. The one-story addition joined this on the west. So you see the old home was of generous size. There were, during the course of time, three wells near the house and one across the road at the barn. We will assume there was a "cool cellar" nearby. This would be necessary to provide room for the food required for such a large family as ours. Potatoes, beets, squash, pumpkins, apples, and other foods were stored here in the winter. Butter, eggs and milk were kept cool here in the summer. There was a large wood pile close by, kept filled from the trees cut in clearing the land for crops. Last, but of most importance, there should have been a generous sized garden with plantings that grandmother Maria herself, no doubt, brought from the old country. This played an important role in the food supply. Very few items had to be purchased in the stores. Tea, coffee, sugar and spices would be among these. Flour was obtained by hauling the grain to the mill. The same with corn meal.





The family must have received all the necessary amounts of protein, calcium and vitamins, et cetera, even if they did not realize it, because they all lived to a ripe old age.

They ate very well. It makes my mouth water to list the good food they were privileged to have. Consider the following:

There was plenty of good, home-churned butter and buttermilk, along with sweet milk and cream. Plenty of sour milk and sour cream was always on hand by the crock-full and used for cakes, cookies, coleslaw and sauces of all kinds. This would make many present-day housewives green with envy. The family was used to generous amounts of all dairy products from the old country. They made their own cheeses of various kinds. No doubt John Ulrich excelled at this along with Maria.

Eggs were in good supply, used in baking cakes, pies and puddings. Home-made bread and biscuits were spread with wild honey, maple syrup, and all manner of jams and jellies as well as good fresh butter. Pancakes were made of buckwheat and corn meal. Pancakes made of corn meal, some flour, soda, buttermilk, and eggs, were very fine. I have tried to duplicate grandmother's, but fail to do so. She had practiced making them since girlhood. Of course, too, they were baked on an old iron range.

All kinds of vegetables came from the garden in season. Beans, corn, squash, cabbage, turnips, tomatoes, rutabagas, onions, and potatoes came forth. Several kinds of lettuce were grown. One type called by the old Aunties "salat" was a great favorite and came from the old country. It cannot be found now. There were different wild greens to be found in the woods.

Many meat products were available. In those days, venison could be shot on their own land. Squirrels and rabbits could be shot or snared. Partridge, quail, dove and other birds were abundant and formed a good share of their diet. Smoked hams, bacon and sausage were always on hand. Lard was plentiful. The folks killed their own beef, mutton, and pork. Chickens, ducks and geese played around the yard. The women dried beans, sweet corn, cherries and apples. Special mention should be made of grandmother's dried sweet corn. No doubt all the girls learned to do this to perfection. They dried cherries to be used, as we use raisins. They dried plums and apples for marvelous pies in the winter months. The children gathered wild berries, which were in abundance, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries and wild plums. The latter were a great delicacy. Later on they had these domestic vines planted and bearing in their garden. We must not forget the apple butter. After a few years, their fruit trees began to bear. There were apple, peach, pear, plum, and many other fruits. There must have been, even at that time, some crude way to put up these fruits and Maria and the girls must have kept busy preserving and canning in the season. In the fall there were all kinds of nuts for the children to gather: walnuts, hickory nuts, beechnuts, and butternuts. By this time I am really drooling.

We should stop now and consider all the hours of hard work involved in processing and procuring all this fine food. The work mainly fell in the women. Canning, preserving, drying and smoking was all done by them. No doubt the men helped with the butchering. There was no end to the work.





What woman today would like the single job of baking all the bread this hungry family consumed? This was only one small item. We should not fail to mention maple sugar taken from the trees in the fall and boiled down and sugared off. Required lots of work, but oh so good! Let's not forget sauerkraut. They must have had a couple of barrels in the cellar every winter.

No doubt many Swiss dishes brought from the old country were very popular. Chicken and dumplings, ham and eggs; no end to good things. Three big meals to get every day. No doubt I have missed many things, maybe fried mush; but oh boy! wasn't it fine food!

So much for that side of the family life. The women had many other hard tasks. We know they had a spinning wheel which was most likely put to good use. They made their own quilts, feather beds and feather pillows. There was always a lot of sewing and mending to do. They made their own soap and their candles, no mean jobs. On long winter nights the knitting needles clicked away from several pairs of hands. They raised the sheep, sheared them, washed and cleaned the wool and carded and worked it into yarn, and then into clothes.

Every minute was taken up with some household task. Their housekeeping might have left something missing, when taken in the light of present day standards; but there was no time to perform some of the finer points of cleaning and many other details considered important today. The children had their tasks assigned from an early age. There were always babies to be taken care of. They arrived every two years and sometimes more often. Let us stop and consider what a task this was to raise ten children, do all this work, and then to work in the fields along side of the men. Our admiration and respect for grandmother Maria should be colossal. In spite of all this, she found time to enjoy and cultivate her flower garden.

The men were busy in the fields clearing and burning the brush, ditching the land for drainage, plowing and sowing the crops. When this was finished, the harvesting was in order. Consider the job they did. By the year 1856, when John died, he had cleared the best part of nine hundred acres of land and had it in fine crops, producing bountifully. Truly this was an achievement that should bring pride to the hearts of every one of his descendants.

Lona Krum  
Wolcottville, Ind.-1952.



## GREAT GRANDMOTHER'S GARDEN AND FLOWERS

Flowers gave pleasure to nearly all pioneer women and Great Grandmother Maria Ashleman was no exception. There were fewer varieties then than now, but all were deeply treasured and tenderly cared for.

Maria Ashleman had peonies, red, white and pink, brought perhaps from her home in Ohio. No doubt today roots from these peonies are growing in some garden. There were deep purple fragrant violets. These were unusual in that they were double and it is hard to imagine where she could have found them. Of course, she had white and purple lilacs, and doubtless snowballs and other shrubs. Of annuals, she probably had marigolds and phlox and a few others that were available over one hundred years ago.

Star of Bethlehem grew in her garden. It was a low growing flower, with a long history, that grew from a bulb. Naturalized in the grass, too, it may have reminded her of the wild crocus in the meadows and on the mountains of her native Switzerland. There were semi-double roses in varying shades of red, propagating themselves and spreading at will in the yard.

Her flowers could not take up much of her time. There was too much work to do. Her daughter Elizabeth, my grandmother, had these same roses and they were beautiful. This variety has all but disappeared now, but once I found the same rose blooming in a very old cemetery near Wolcottville, Indiana. Of course, there were other flowers, honeysuckle, perhaps, and balsm, larkspur, cockscomb and others lost to us now.

The neighbor women exchanged seeds and slips of plants, then as now, but there were very few flowers ever purchased. The flowers of today have been so modernized and hybridized and changed that we would scarcely have recognized some of these varieties grown in Great Grandmother's garden. Grown perhaps in rows or in a corner of the vegetable garden.

Maria and John came from a land of wild and rugged beauty. The mountain sides and valley pastures were often covered, then as now, with wild crocus of many shades and with many little flowers. A sweep of mountain side was something startling to see in the spring or summer, covered with blue scillas, like a patch of blue sky, or with chiondoxas of a lighter blue. These were, and are now mingled with many other wild flowers of the mountains. Our grandparents were used to this wild beauty and things must have seemed very barren when they reached their new home. However, a woman's hands soon changed that with flowers of the new world.

Lona A. Krum  
Wolcottville, Ind.-1952.





PART II

THE NINE CHILDREN





ELIZABETH - 1832-1906

(This introduction on Elizabeth is by her granddaughter  
Lona Krum).

Elizabeth was born in Berne, Switzerland on May 3, 1832. She died in Auburn, Indiana on Sept. 26, 1906 at the age of 74, from a heart attack while sitting on the steps of her home. The funeral was at the Lutheran Church and burial in Woodlawn Cemetery. Elizabeth was one year of age when she arrived in America in 1833 with her parents and settled in Wayne County, Ohio. When she was twelve, the family moved to Auburn, Ind. She saw the opening of the first grave in the old Auburn Cemetery.

In 1854, at the age of 22, she was married to Andrew Jackson Carmer. He was born in Dryden, New York on Sept. 18, 1834. Andrew died on June 18, 1895 from a heart attack, and indirectly as a result of an injury to his head incurred years before. He was a student, a farmer and a religious scholar. He was a formal, precise man and perhaps difficult to know.

The Carmer home was a true reflection of its owners. It was well built in a setting of beautiful trees and lawn, with an orchard on two sides. A wooden walk led to the bank barn, and all was enclosed by stout fences. The old house and barn are in good condition and in use today. The house had eight large rooms and was very well furnished for the times. There was a melodian in the parlor and wool rugs on the floors. Grandmother had a sewing machine. The Carmers used lamps instead of candles which were common in those days.

Grandpa and Grandma took a great delight in entertaining and were noted for their hospitality. All of the work of cooking fell upon Grandma, and Grandpa took great delight in personally serving the guests and waiting on the table. The food was good and plentiful, and the table was loaded down, as it was considered poor form to have any vacant spot on the table. The children ate at the second table.

Grandma liked to work out of doors whenever she could. She loved the soil and growing things. Her shoulders were bent and her hands knotted from hard work. She had a fine garden too. There were deep fragrant purple double violets in a row, sweet alyssum, asters and other annuals. The peonies were against the fence, white, pink and red. Star of Bethlehem and low growing semi-double red roses naturalized themselves thru the yard. There were lilacs and snowballs and perhaps other shrubs. She had a "pie berry bush", known now as a barberry. The love of garden and flowers has been inherited by several of her grandchildren.

Grandma had little time for fun or humor. Life to her was hard at all times. I do not remember of ever hearing her laugh outloud, but I do recall that she smiled sometimes. She was a devout Christian. Meetings of the Church of the Brethren were held at her home on Sunday afternoons. I recall her prayers, asking for guidance "thru this vale of tears". She had beautiful long brown shiny hair, as no doubt her mother had. When she died at 74 her hair had changed very little in color and she was still quite heavy. Of her can be said, "She hath done what she could". She died Sept. 26, 1906.



Elizabeth and Andrew had seven children. They were:

I. William	1857-1930	IV. Jule Pathenia	1864-1868
II. Mary Ellen	1859-1944	V. Nellie	1866-1877
III. Annie	1862-1886	VI. Jerremiah	1870-1947
VII. Moses (died as an infant).			

I. CARMER, William, Sr., (b. Dec. 28, 1857-d. Mar. 20, 1930) at Auburn, Ind. He was a farmer. He married (1) to Mattie May (b. 1860-d. 1920). There was one child by this marriage.

A. CARMER, Prudence J., (b. Apr. 10, 1883-d. Jan. 28, 1887).

William married (2) to Capitola Loretta Branyan, (b. Aug. 2, 1863-Dec. 17, 1929). They lived in Auburn. They had 7 children.

A. Weaver Field	1892	E. Grace (Albright)	1899
B. Andrew J.	1895	F. Osie (Gulid)	1904
C. Annie (Robinson)	1896	G. Regina Ruth (Pentland)	1906
D. William	1898		

A. CARMER, Weaver Field, (b. Dec. 22, 1892). He married on Dec. 5, 1911 to Bertha H. Moorman of Antwerp, Ohio. Bertha was born Feb. 26, 1883. He is a draftsman employed by the International Harvester Co. of Fort Wayne, Ind. Their address is 1008 Pauling Rd., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have 2 children:

STEIN, Lethia Aleine (Carmer) (Lake), (b. Oct. 22, 1914), at Auburn. She married (1) in May 1932 to Jeff Lake. They have one son Jeff W. Lake. Mr. Lake was a truck driver. They were divorced Feb. 19, 1938.

LAKE, Jeff W., (b. June 18, 1935). In school.

Lethia married (2) on Nov. 11, 1942 to J. E. Stein (b. Nov. 11, 1901 at Chicago, Ill.). He is engaged in the resort business. He had one year in the Air Corps. Their address is Jay-Lee Inn, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin.

CARMER, Walter Wayne, (b. Aug. 28, 1911) at Auburn Ind. He is a piano technician by trade. He rebuilds and tunes pianos. Grade and high school at Auburn. He married on Dec. 16, 1945 to Flo Ann Revett of Fort Wayne. Flo was born on Dec. 16, 1920. Address is 121 Taber St., Fort Wayne, Ind. He served one year in the Air Corps in Panama in World War II.

B. CARMER, Andrew Jackson (Jack), (b. Apr. 16, 1895) in Auburn. He was raised in Auburn and went thru school there. He married on Feb. 21, 1920 to Helen M. Provines (b. Feb. 21, 1901). His address is R.F.D. Auburn, Ind. He is in business as a plumbing and heating contractor. He was in World War I in U.S. Army. They have 6 children:

Jean Francis  
Marian Iris  
Doris Jean

Janet Colleen  
Harold Wayne  
Carole Jewell

FITZSIMMONS, Jean Francis (Carmer), (b. June 17, 1921). She married Guy P. Fitzsimmons (b. Oct. 2, 1891). He is a service engineer for the Rieke Metal





Products, Inc. of Auburn. He is from Rushville, Ind. Address is Box 253, Auburn, Ind. No children.

CARMER, Marian Iris, (b. May 20, 1923-Apr. 19, 1924). She was 11 mos. and 9 da. at death. Died of obstruction of the bowels.

SANXTER, Doris Jean (Carmer), (b. May 5, 1925). On Feb. 7, 1944 she married to Lawrence D. Sanxter (b. May 7, 1922). She was divorced on May 19, 1951. Lawrence was a radio and television service engineer. Her address is with her parents. They had one child.

SANXTER, Larry D., (b. Dec. 27, 1944.)

BEATY, Janet Colleen (Carmer), (b. Aug. 3, 1927). She married on May 15, 1948 to Robert H. Beaty (b. May 25, 1920). He is an Auburn boy. He graduated from Acme School of Tool and Die Design in Detroit. He is a veteran of World War II with 5½ yrs. of service in the Army Engineers. He holds Asiatic Pacific, American Theatre, Philippine Liberation and Good Conduct ribbons. He was a Tech. Sgt. He has been recalled into service and is now in France with the U.S. Army. Mrs. Beaty's address is 202½ N. Jackson St., Auburn, Ind.

CARMER, Harold Wayne, (b. May 28, 1930). Graduated from the International Business College at Fort Wayne in 1950. He is a member of the Indiana Nat'l. Guard activated Feb. 1, 1950. He is now stationed at Sioux City, Iowa. Not married.

CARMER, Carole Jewell, (b. Nov. 9, 1930). Attending school.

C. ROBINSON, Annie Elizabeth (Carmer) (Carr), (b. Sept. 28, 1896). She married on June 1, 1919 to George Carr. They were later divorced. They had a son George Clayton Carr, who later changed his name to Carmer.

CARMER, George Clayton (Carr), (b. Feb. 29, 1920). He was in the U.S. Navy in World War II and served in Aviation Ordnance as a turret specialist. He traveled about the U.S. in this service. He married Margaret Lovel (b. Oct. 13, 1924). He is now engaged as an inspector in a machine shop. Their address is S. 315 Friche Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have one child:

CARMER, Brenda Jo, (b. Sept. 1, 1947).

Annie Elizabeth married on Sept. 26, 1943 to George Robinson (b. Jan. 14, 1907). He is a sheet metal jobber. They live in Fort Wayne at 2619 Kensington Blvd.

D. CARMER, William, Jr., (b. Feb. 28, 1898) in Auburn, Ind. He attended school there. On May 25, 1921 he married Violet Springer (b. Oct. 1, 1895). Wm. is a carpenter by trade. Their address is 807 S. Jackson St., Auburn. They had 2 children:

CARMER, Ronald Eugene, (b. Dec. 6, 1921). Ronald married (1) to Virginia Helsing (b. Aug. 18, 1923) on Aug. 11, 1939. They had one child: They were divorced.

CARMER, Jerry Eugene, (b. Dec. 17, 1940).





Ronald married (2) on Dec. 20, 1947 to Sylvia B. Gullum (b. May 18, 1910). Sylvia served in Civil Service during the war in Hawaii. Ronald served in the 28th Infantry Div. E.T.O. in the U.S. Army. He was in the Battle of the Bulge. Sylvia is from Shreveport, La. Ronald is with the International Harvester Co. at Fort Wayne, Ind. They live at 903 Cedar St., Auburn, Ind.

CARMER, David Dorsey, (b. Apr. 28, 1929). He graduated from Purdue Univ. at Lafayette, Ind. in 1952 with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He married on Apr. 29, 1950 to Patricia A. Culbertson (b. July 29, 1929). She is an Auburn girl. David is employed by the Lockheed Aircraft Corp. at Burbank, Calif. They live at 2599 Buena Vista St., Burbank.

E. ALBRIGHT, Grace (Carmer), (b. Oct. 9, 1899). She married on Feb. 22, 1919 to Raymond Jackson Albright (b. Dec. 28, 1893). He is moulder by trade. He served 11 months in the U.S. Infantry in World War I. Their address is 701 S. Union St., Auburn. They have 5 children:

June Eurene  
Andrew Jackson

Edna Loretta  
Nellie Maxine

Georgia Ellen

MILLER, June Eurene (Albright) (b. Jan. 1, 1920). She married on Mar. 4, 1939 to Lawrence E. Miller of Mark Center, Ohio. He was b. on Sept. 23, 1921. He served 2 yrs. with the U.S. Navy on a L.S.T. boat in World War II. He is employed at a bakery in Toledo, Ohio. Their address is Post Box 95, Millburg, Ohio. They have 5 children:

MILLER, Barbara Jean (b. Dec. 10, 1941) in Auburn.  
MILLER, Beatrice Joy (b. Apr. 14, 1943) in Fort Wayne.  
MILLER, Doris Alene (b. July 6, 1944) in Fort Wayne.  
MILLER, Lawrence Eugene (b. July 13, 1946) in Fort Wayne.  
MILLER, Donald Jackson (b. Feb. 10, 1951) in Toledo.

ALBRIGHT, Andrew Jackson, (b. Dec. 11, 1921) in Auburn. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II on a tanker and later in the fleet as a boatswain's mate. He was wounded at the invasion of the Marshalls. He served at Pearl Harbor. On Dec. 31, 1943, he married Merle Webb of San Francisco, Calif. She was born Jan. 31, 1927. He is employed by the Safeway Stores in Santa Cruz, Calif. where they live. They have 3 children:

ALBRIGHT, Andrew Robert (b. Dec. 24, 1944).  
ALBRIGHT, Andrea Jeanne (b. July 15, 1946).  
ALBRIGHT, Linda Lee (b. Jan. 19, 1951).

All were born in San Francisco, California.

CHRISTLIEB, Edna Loretta (Albright), (b. Mar. 24, 1923). She married on Nov. 22, 1941 to Delbert Christlieb (b. May 5, 1922). He was from St. Joe, Ind. They were divorced in May, 1951. He served 15 mos. in the U.S. Infantry in W.W. II in the anti-tank division. Edna is employed in a store in Auburn and is living with her parents. There were 3 children of this marriage:

CHRISTLIEB, Sharon Ann (b. Aug. 2, 1942).  
CHRISTLIEB, Sandra Lee (b. Jan. 13, 1944).  
CHRISTLIEB, Delbert Wayne (b. Mar. 12, 1945).



MILLER, Nellie Maxine (Albright), (b. Aug. 30, 1927). She married David Miller (b. June 24, 1928) on Oct. 23, 1946. He is employed as a maintenance man for the G.M.C. Foundry in Defiance, Ohio. Their address is R.R. 1, Continental, Ohio. They have 3 children:

MILLER, David Lynn (b. Nov. 29, 1947) in Auburn, Ind.  
MILLER, Rebecca Ann (b. Nov. 29, 1949) in Auburn, Ind.  
MILLER, Virginia Arlene (b. Dec. 1, 1951) in Defiance, Ohio.

ALBRIGHT, Georgia Ellen (b. Oct. 6, 1936). She is not in good health and lives at home with her family in Auburn.

F. GUILD, Ossie Dell (Carmer), (b. July 24, 1904). She attended grade and high school in Auburn. She married Edgar Guild (b. Aug. 13, 1906) at Valparaiso, Ind. He is an automobile mechanic and general machinist employed by the Auburn Stoker Corp., makers of heating equipment. Their address is West Eleventh St., Auburn. They have one child: Beverly.

HENDRICKS, Beverly Ruth (Guild), (b. June 12, 1926) at Fort Wayne, Ind. She graduated from Purdue Univ. in 1949. She was a Tri Kappa. She majored in Bacteriology and holds a B.S. degree. She was employed 1½ yrs. on the Univ. staff as a technician in the laboratory. She worked for the Upjohn Co. in Kalamazoo, Mich. from 1950 to 1951 as a research scientist on T.B. On Sept. 10, 1949 she married Robert Nelson Hendricks (b. May 21, 1925) in Auburn. He graduated from Purdue in 1950 with a B.S. degree. He is a metallurgical engineer employed by the Joslin Steel Co. at Fort Wayne, Ind. He served with the U.S. Army in W.W. II in the Air Force, both Atlantic & Pacific Theatres. Address is 1417 Cass St., Fort Wayne. They have 2 children:

HENDRICKS, Barbara Ann (b. June 1, 1951).  
HENDRICKS, Richard David (b. Sept. 7, 1952).

G. PENTLAND, Regina Ruth (Carmer), (b. July 2, 1906) at Auburn. She married on Dec. 3, 1924 to Garry Pentland (b. Jan. 4, 1903). He is in the automotive parts salvage business in Auburn. Address is R.R. 3, St. Johns Rd., Auburn, Ind. They have 5 children who are:

<u>Betty Jean</u>	<u>Jere Michael</u>
<u>Myrtle Irene</u>	<u>Stephan Gail</u>
<u>Harvey Allen</u>	

PENTLAND, Betty Jean, (b. Aug. 7, 1925). She is religious youth director and a teacher of Religious Education. She attended the International Business College at Fort Wayne, Ind. and 4 yrs. college in Findlay, Ohio. She is affiliated with the Church of God of North America. She lives at 1001 S. Cedar St., Auburn, Ind.

BAUGHMAN, Myrtle Irene (Pentland), (b. Jan. 9, 1927) at Auburn. She attended the International Business College at Fort Wayne, Ind. On Oct. 9, 1949 she married Donald W. Baughman (b. Apr. 25, 1926). He is a private secy. in the Messenger Corp., Auburn. Their address is 1001½ Cedar St. Donald served 11 mos. with the Infantry in Korea in 1945. At present, he is in the Army at Ft. Knox, Ky.





PENTLAND, Harvey Allen, (b. Sept. 13, 1936) in Auburn.

PENTLAND, Jere Michael, (b. Dec. 12, 1943) in Auburn.

PENTLAND, Stephan Gail, (b. Oct. 12, 1947) in Auburn.

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## II. KRUM, Mary Ellen (Molly) (Carmer), (b. Mar. 12, 1859-May 7, 1944).

Molly was born on the home farm east of Auburn. She grew up and went to school in Auburn. She died at the age of 85 yrs. When she was 22 yrs. of age she married on Dec. 3rd, to Frederick Krum (b. Aug. 9, 1859-Apr. 4, 1921). He came from Summit, Ind. They lived for a time in Auburn and later moved to Wolcottville, Ind. where he owned and operated a men's clothing store. Mary was a fine mother and homemaker. Frederick had a ready wit and an affable disposition, and they had many friends. They had 5 children who were:

A. Martha Elizabeth 1883

C. Daniel Andrew 1890-1891

B. Lona Anne 1887

D. Gracie Mae 1892-1894

E. Ralph McKinley 1896-1952

A. CLOUSE, Martha Elizabeth (Bessie) (Krum), (b. July 23, 1883). She married George Clouse who has lived in and around Auburn all his life. He was formerly in the hay and grain business. He is now custodian of the DeKalb Co. Court House. Bessie raises flowers as a hobby and is an excellent homemaker. George has a host of friends in the community. Their address is 425 West 7th St., Auburn, Ind. No children.

B. KRUM, Lona Anne, (b. Sept. 2, 1887) near Auburn. Lona graduated from Auburn high school. She attended Tri-State College at Angola, Ind. and Earlham College (a Quaker school) at Richmond, Ind. She graduated from the International Business College at Fort Wayne. Her education was interspersed with teaching and she has had extension work at Bowling Green University at Bowling Green, Ohio and Indiana University at Bloomington, Ind. She has taught subjects such as: Modern & Medieval History, American History, Civics, German, Art and Music. She has taught various grades in Ohio and Ind. She is now retired and living at Wolcottville, Ind. Lock Box 233 is her address. Her interests at present are centered in raising flowers and arranging and working with flowers and plants. She is also interested in English Literature and Current Events.

Cousin Lona has been a source of endless information on the Ashleman family. She visited, in the 1920's, all of the Ashleman children who were living. She obtained at that time the dates and information that have been used for this book. She is responsible for a great deal of the material in the various sketches and has supplied suggestions and ideas continuously during writing of the book. She merits the thanks of the entire family.

C. KRUM, Daniel Andrew (b. July 7, 1890-May 13, 1891 at age 10 mos. and 8 da. of life). He is buried in the Scipio Cemetery near Hicksville, Ohio.

D. KRUM, Gracie Mae, (b. Nov. 7, 1892 near Howe, Ind.-d. Sept. 5, 1894). Age 9 mos. and 28 days. She is buried in the Cemetery of the Church of the Brethren, English Prairie, near Brighton, Ind.

E. KRUM, Ralph McKinley, (b. Aug. 27, 1896-Feb. 19, 1952). Ralph graduated from high school in Wolcottville, Ind. He was a mechanic by trade. He married in July, 1919, to Mary Williams (b. 1899-Feb. 17, 1920). He has lived in





Wolcottville since 1910. At the time of his death he was City Marshal, Supt. of Parks, Supt. of the Water Dept. and Supt. of Streets in Wolcottville. Ralph will be remembered for his cheerful disposition and his many acts of kindness, especially towards elderly people. He was a conservationist and loved nature.

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III. MORTOFF, Annie (Carmer), (b. Aug. 25, 1862-d. Feb. 14, 1896). Died at age 24. She married John Mortoff (b. Dec. 12, 1861-d. March 10, 1888). He was a farmer. They lived in Summit, Ind. Both of them died of T.B. and left one son, Carl, who was raised by his grandmother Elizabeth Carmer.

A. MORTOFF, Carl (Carlie), (b. June 20, 1884-June 1907). Carl was raised by Grandma Carmer after he was orphaned by the death of his parents. He was a draftsman by trade and worked in the early automobile plants in Detroit and Cleveland. There is not much known about his death, but he was taken ill and apparently died of scarlet fever. It is believed that he died due to lack of care. His death cut off what would have been an enterprising career.

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IV. CARMER, Julia Pathenia, (b. Apr. 10, 1864-Sept. 9, 1868). She lived 5 yrs. and 5 mos. There is interesting sidelight that should be called to attention here. On her tombstone it refers to her as the daughter of A.J. and E.P. Carmer. We have not been able to establish what the "P" in Elizabeth's name stood for. This leads us to assume that Elizabeth's middle name was Pathenia and she gave it to this daughter.

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V. CARMER, Nellie, (b. Nov. 14, 1866-May 31, 1877). She died at six months of age.

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VI. CARMER, Jeremiah (Jerry), (b. Feb. 16, 1870-Jan. 21, 1947). Jerry was born on the Carmer farm and raised there. He married on Dec. 4, 1890 to (1) Nora Jane Reasoner (b. Sept. 3, 1873-Mar. 3, 1919). She was born near the Carmer school house east of Auburn. A great many of the cousins got their early grades there. She was the oldest daughter of Hiram and Melissa Lawhead Reasoner. Her family came from Ohio. Her father was of French descent, and her mother Scotch and English. Jerry was engaged in numerous businesses in both Auburn and Fort Wayne. He owned the elevator in Auburn at one time. He was also in the coal business. He was a city councilman at one time. They lived at 347 W. 7th St.

About 1910 they moved to Fort Wayne and lived on East Berry St. in a big old home that was built by Mark Hannah. Jerry operated a garage here and sold Auburn and later Buick cars. He was also in the real estate business. Still later he operated a hay and feed store. Later they sold this home and moved back to Auburn to live.

I quote Esther Carmer Mason: "Mother was a very devout Christian. She taught all her children Christian principals in early life and urged them to leave the world a better place to live in than they found it. She was a quiet gentle person, active in the W.C.T.U., her church and her home. Dad was always



cheerful, usually whistling, with a high sense of humor, a ready wit and quick to tease. He was always on the go. Their home was always open to relatives and friends. They had a foster daughter, Maude Henry Laury of Washington, D.C. There were 4 children:

A. Mable Etrulia	1892-1892	C. Cleota	1897
B. Vernier	1896-	D. Esther	1903

A. CARMER, Mable Etrulia, (b. Dec. 19, 1891-Sept. 1892). She lived 8 mos. and 10 days.

B. CARMER, Vernier (Vern), (b. Mar. 3, 1896) on the old farm east of Auburn. He was raised and attended school in Auburn. The writer, George B. Eckhart, played with him as a boy and attended some grades with him. He married on July 17, 1921 to Gladys E. Lathouse (b. Apr. 29, 1896) in Columbus, Ohio. He is a plumbing & heating engineer, also a master plumber. Vern was in the Field Artillery in W.W. I. He was in Europe and was located at the same spots that his son was in W.W. II. He was a Sgt. of fire direction. Their address is 614 Florence Ave., Fort Wayne. Their children are:

Maxine Louise

Richard Vincent

JENNINGS, Maxine Louise (Carmer), (b. Nov. 22, 1922). She married on Dec. 26, 1946 to Herbert V. Jennings (b. Feb. 9, 1919). He is employed by the International Harvester Co. in Fort Wayne as a machinist. He was in the Air Force in W.W. II in Australia and the South Pacific. They live at  
They have 3 children:

JENNINGS, Richard William (b. Feb. 9, 1947).

JENNINGS, Jane Louise (b. Apr. 4, 1948).

JENNINGS, Nancee Ann (b. Feb. 11, 1950).

CARMER, Richard Vincent, (b. Oct. 11, 1924) (Same birthday as writer only 27 yrs. later). He served in W.W. II in the 771st Artillery in the U.S. Army. He was in the Battle of the Bulge. Rank Sgt. He graduated from Purdue Univ., Lafayette, Ind. in 1950 with a B.S. degree. He is a chemical engineer and employed by the U.S. Rubber Co. at Fort Wayne. His address is at his parents' home, 614 Florence Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind. He is single at present.

G. BAUGHMAN, Cleota Bernice (Carmer), (b. Dec. 27, 1897). She grew up and went to school in Auburn. She married on Sept. 4, 1919 to Lester Baughman (b. Oct. 21, 1898). He graduated from high school in Zion, Ill., and Kenosha Business College. He is manufacturer's representative for a plumbing and heating company. Cleota attended Hillsdale College in the class of 1920. She is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority. They live at 2728 Ecchol Ave., Zion, Ill. They have 3 children:

SISSON, Barbara Jane (Baughman), (b. Mar. 14, 1922). She graduated from Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisc. She married on Nov. 24, 1944 to William Grant Sisson (b. Jan. 6, 1922). He owns the Midway Supply Co., a wholesale heating supply co. He attended Iowa State College at Ames, Iowa. He was in the U.S. Navy for 2 yrs. He was in the Hospital Corps, trained at Great Lakes and Bremerton, Wash., and served at Eniwetok and in the Marshalls. Their address is 1905 N. Sherman Rd., Zion, Ill. They have two children: Katheryn Louise and Karlyn Jane:





SISSON, Kathryn Louise (b. July 18, 1947).

SISSON, Karlyn Jane (b. July 24, 1951).

CAPP, Patricia Louise (Baughman), (b. May 30, 1929). She studied at the National College of Education at Evanston, Ill. Graduated June, 1951, with a B.E. degree. She married on Sept. 1, 1950 to Arthur Oliver Capp (b. Nov. 2, 1925). He is from Zion. He graduated in 1949 with a B.S. in Engineering from the University of Ill., at Champaign, Ill. He is employed as a sales engineer with the Fansteel Metallurgical Corp. of North Chicago, working out of their Los Angeles office. He was in Army Air Force 2½ yrs. They live at 2306 Collins Lane, Montrose, Calif. They have one child:

CAPP, Patrick Oliver, (b. July 23, 1951).

BAUGHMAN, Douglas Carmer, (b. Aug. 6, 1939).

D. MASON, Esther Lenore (Carmer), (b. Sept. 8, 1903) in Auburn Ind. She attended college at Zion College for 2 yrs. She married on June 28, 1923 to Gerald Mason (b. Nov. 23, 1900). He was raised in Zion, Ill. and attended Zion College, graduating in 1925 with a B.A. degree. He has done post-graduate work at Wisconsin and Colorado Western Reserve. He is a teacher of Biology in the Zion schools. He also has taught band. His hobby is photography. Their address is 2303 Emmaus Ave., Zion, Ill. Gerald is an ordained minister of the Christian Catholic Church. He attended Gordon Divinity School and was ordained in his second year. He is the minister at Michigan City, Ind. They have 2 sons

MASON, Gerald William, Jr. (Bill), (b. Dec. 31, 1925). He is attending Gordon Divinity School at Boston and is expecting to graduate in 1954. He became an ordained minister in the Christian Catholic Church in 1951. He also graduated from Wheaton College at Wheaton, Ill. in 1950 with a B.A. degree. He was in the Army in W.W. II as an intelligence observer and interpreter. He was in Germany. He was in London on V.J. Day. He holds American Theatre, European, African and Middle Eastern service medals. He has 2 battle stars, a good conduct medal, and Army of Occupation ribbon. He served as virtual Military Governor of a province in the Sudetenland for about a month.

MASON, Charles Robert (Bob), (b. Dec. 20, 1928). He holds a B.A. degree from Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill. Grad. 1952 in Business Administration. He expects to do personnel work. He will be in the Army shortly.

Jerry Carmer was married (2) to Miss Ella Finan in 1921.

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VII. CARMER, Moses. Was a child when he died. We have no more information regarding him.





## MY GRANDMOTHER'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

by LONA KRUM

On March 3, 1882, the friends and relatives of A.J. Carmer and wife visited them in their home two miles east of Auburn, for the purpose of celebrating the fiftieth birthday of Mrs. Elizabeth Carmer. By one o'clock p.m. forty or fifty persons were present, and by request, Charles Eckhart, on behalf of friends and relatives, presented the following articles. Folding chair to A.J. Carmer, hanging lamp, two sets of glassware, gold collar pin, pie, cake and fruit dishes to Elizabeth Carmer.

Mr. Carmer and wife, in a few appropriate remarks, acknowledged the receipt of the above, after which the friends and relatives were invited to the dining room where refreshments were served in first class style. After dinner, all had a good social time.

The father of Mrs. Carmer, John U. Ashleman, moved to this country from Ohio about forty years ago (1842 or 1843). There are nine children, Mrs. Carmer being the oldest, and Mrs. Rosa Saxton the youngest. Up to the present time death has not visited this family, which is very remarkable.

The following persons were present: Moses Ashleman and his wife, William Ashleman and his wife, Charles Eckhart and wife, Mrs. Mary Raut, Mrs. Regina Weaver, Mrs. Annie Walker, Mrs. Ruth Saxton, William Carmer and wife, Frank Thomas and wife, C.P. Coleman and wife, James Coleman and wife, Daniel Krum and wife (my grandfather and grandmother Krum), Fred Krum and wife (my parents), and Mrs. A. Moser. In addition to the above, there were fifteen or twenty children belonging to the various members of the family.

This occasion will be remembered for a long time and it is hardly probable that such a meeting will take place again where the whole family will be present. However, we trust that many such meetings may be enjoyed in the future.

NOTE: This account came to George B. Eckhart from cousin Lona Krum. She adds, "Your father was no doubt there. He must have been around fifteen at the time." Actually he was exactly fifteen. There is no doubt that Christopher was there and it was at this time the photograph in this book was taken of all of the Ashlemans.  
--G.B.E.



MOSES - 1834-1888.

Moses was born in Wayne County, Ohio, on August 10, 1834. He had the grade school education common in those days. He married in 1865 (1) to Mary (Molly) Brandon, born Dec. 23, 1847, died May 25, 1885. She was a southern girl but her birthplace is not known. Moses moved to Newville when a young man and lived there till his death. He owned farm property near Auburn. He was a prosperous and successful farmer. Note that his branch of the family spell the name Ash EL man in contrast to Ash LE man as used by the balance of the family. Moses had 5 children, 4 by his first wife and 1 by his second wife. Moses married (2) Mary Ann (Davis) (Simpkins). Details on second marriage will follow. Moses died August 15, 1888. He lived 54 yrs., 2 mos., 5 da., and is buried at Newville, Ind.

I. George	1866	III. Catherine Blanch	1872
II. Rollie	1870	IV. Glenwood	1878

I. ASHELMAN, George Dale, (b. Aug. 11, 1866 in Auburn and died Nov. 26, 1920 in Fayette, Ohio). He was a merchant and a salesman. He built, owned and operated a brick hotel in Fayette. He attended Ball State College at Muncie. He taught school and worked in a bank. He was a Methodist. When his mother's health became poorly, he took her to her old home in the southland where she died. He was stricken with T.B. but by much care he recovered and died of a stomach ailment. George married on March 4, 1886 to Etta Morey (b. Oct. 1866). She was the daughter of Ensworth & Harriet (Ackley) Morey of Oxford, Maine. She was placed in a home when only six years of age due to the demise of her parents. She was brought to Ohio and reared by a Quaker Uncle, John Morton. He was a farmer and operated a peppermint factory. She is still living (1952) but is in very poor health. She is a devout Methodist. They had two sons, Clyde and Vern:

A. Clyde Leland	1888	B. Vern Dale	1890
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A. ASHELMAN, Clyde Leland, (b. Dec. 25, 1888) in Fayette, Ohio. He attended Fayette Normal two years. He has had a musical career and played in orchestras and on tours for years. He operated a restaurant in Adrian, Mich. prior to 1917. In that year he moved to Warren, Ohio. Here he was a foreman for the Republic Steel Co. for several years. He owned and operated a "Dairy Store" business. He is at present employed by the Board of Liquor Control of the State of Ohio. On Sept. 30, 1915 he married Mable Christine Cline (b. Aug. 14, 1893) at Sharon, Pa. She is the daughter of Ora L. and Charlotte (Woolf) Cline of Mineral Ridge, Ohio. She graduated from high school and Business College and studied violin and voice. The folks are Presbyterians and Democrats. Their address is 1229 Grant, S.E., Warren, Ohio. They have 3 children:

. Donald C.	Robert K.	. Paul O.
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ASHELMAN, Donald Cline, (b. June 11, 1915) at Adrian, Mich. Graduated high school and attended Warren Business College. Was in athletics and on the Glee Club in school. He is now a maintenance man for the Board of Education at Warren. He does some insurance appraising also. He is a Mason and a Presbyterian. Donald married on Aug. 1, 1943 to Carroll Poe of Ft. Bragg, Calif. (b. Dec. 12, 1925). They were divorced in 1946. One child, Vicky.





ASHELMAN, Vicky, (b. Dec. 26, 1944). Lives with her mother.

Donald married (2) Mrs. Martha (Smith) (Harris) on Oct. 26, 1951. Their address is 2770 Woodlawn, N.E., Warren, Ohio. Donald entered the Medical Corps of the Army in Jan. 1942 at Camp Grant. He was trained in California. He saw duty in Dutch East Indies, Biak, Mindoro, Linga, Gulf & Leyte. He was attached to the Fifth Air Force as a Sgt. in Medical Evacuation Units. Has 5 battle stars and 3 theatre ribbons, and wings. He holds a fine letter of commendation from his company commander. They have a son by Mrs. Harris' former marriage, William.

HARRIS, William (b. June 5, 1943).

ASHELMAN, Robert Keith, (b. Feb. 11, 1917). He graduated from high school in Warren. Attended Mt. Union College at Alliance, Ohio. Played football, basketball and was on the track team. He is a member of the ATO fraternity. He has a pre-legal degree. He has attended night school at Youngstown College for the past 4 yrs. and will graduate in Law in 1953. He is a Mason. He is employed by the Peerless Electric Co. of Warren in charge of the cost accounting dept. He married on May 30, 1941 to Jean Kidwell (b. Jan. 9, 1919). She is the daughter of Prof. & Mrs. E. E. Kidwell of Alliance College. Jean graduated from Mt. Union and is an Alpha Chi. Their address is Rt. 1, Phalanx Station, Warren, Ohio. Robert was in the Army in 1942 in Chemical Warfare Section. He trained with the 82nd Airborne Unit and saw duty in the Roma Arno Campaign. Discharged as a first Lt. in 1946. They have two children:

ASHELMAN, Robert Keith, Jr., (b. June 16, 1944).

ASHELMAN, Grant, (b. July 3, 1947).

ASHELMAN, Paul Oscar, (b. July 13, 1919). He graduated from high school in Warren. He attended Mt. Union College at Alliance, Ohio. He is an ATO. Was on the varsity football team. He attended Youngstown College 2 yrs. studying Engineering. He is employed by the Grinnell Fire Extinguisher Co. of Warren. Paul married on Jan. 29, 1942 to Mary Claudia Ferguson (b. Dec. 10, 1920). She is the daughter of Carol & Liley Ferguson of Pittsburgh, Pa. She attended Alliance College and graduated from Mt. Union College. She is an Alpha Chi. Paul was in the U. S. Army, trained at Ft. Hays, Miami, Fla., Atlantic City and Dayton. He was a technician in the Air Force with rank of Corporal. In Army 3½ yrs., never got overseas. He is a Mason. They attend the Presbyterian Church. Address is 195 Hazelwood, S.E., Warren. They have 4 children: John Paul and triplets, Marylin, Louise and Dorothy.

ASHELMAN, John Paul (Jack), (b. June 7, 1944).

ASHELMAN, Marylin, (b. Sept. 23, 1946).

ASHELMAN, Louise, (b. Sept. 23, 1946).

ASHELMAN, Dorothy, (b. Sept. 23, 1946).

B. ASHELMAN, Vern Dale, (b. Oct. 14, 1890) in Fayette, Ohio. He graduated from high school and Barber College in Chicago. He helped his father in the hotel business, worked as a dry cleaner and barbered. He always wanted to go on the stage and he was a dancer and a singer and comic. He married in 1916 to Irma Hansen and they were divorced in 1921. They had one child, Charles. She remarried. We have no record of them.



ASHELMAN, Charles, (b. July 31, 1918).

Vern was indulged in by his parents. They humored him and spent a great deal of money trying to help him become established. He contacted T.B. and spent several years in a sanitarium in Mich. and in other places. Occasionally one of the family gets a card from him from some city in the U. S., usually widely apart. A card was received from him from Los Angeles in 1952.

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II. ASHELMAN, Rollie Allen, (b. Mar. 8, 1870) at Newville, Ind. He never married but lived all his life on a farm at Newville. He died Sept. 3, 1898 at the age of 28 years. Tombstone says 1901.

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III. GRIEST, Catherine Blanch (Ashelman), (b. April 22, 1872-d. April 16, 1901). She died and was buried in Newville, in the United Brethren Church. She married on Jan. 1, 1895 in St. Joe to Franklin (Benjamin Franklin) Griest. Mr. Griest is an optometrist in Hicksville and lives with his daughter. His parents were David & Margaret (Stafford) Griest. He attended Tri-State College at Angola and the School of Optometry at Chicago, Ill. They had one child, Ruth Lenore.

A. HILBERT, Ruth Lenore (Griest), (b. Nov. 8, 1897) at Newville, Ind. She married Claron Hilbert (b. Jan. 25, 1898) on Aug. 28, 1918. Mr. Hilbert is a farmer. Their address is 705 E. Smith St., Hicksville, Ind. Mr. Hilbert attended Coyne Electrical School in Chicago. They have 3 children: Allen, Robert and Charles.

HILBERT, Allen Richard, (b. June 4, 1919). He married on Mar. 23, 1940 to Eloise Countryman (b. Nov. 21, 1919). He is an Optometrist and is in business with his grandfather in Hicksville. He entered the Army in 1943, trained at Camp Grant, Ill., and served in the Solomon and Philippine Islands. He holds 3 ribbons, one bronze star, and a merit unit award. Discharged, 1945. They live in Hicksville. They have 2 children, James and Linda. Address is 207 Meuse Argonne Ave., Hicksville, Ohio.

HILBERT, James Allen, (b. May 7, 1943)

HILBERT, Linda Eloise, (b. May 21, 1944)

HILBERT, Robert DeLoy, (b. April 24, 1925). On Sept. 29, 1946 he married Nona Countryman (b. April 12, 1926). Allen and Robert married sisters. He attended No. Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, Ill. He is an Optometrist and is waiting to find an opening to practice. Address is 112 Arthur St., Hicksville, Ind. He was in the U. S. Navy in World War II, trained at Great Lakes, Norfolk and Long Island. Served in Okinawa & Japan. Holds 3 ribbons and one star. He holds the rank of PhM 1/c. They have one child, Rebecca Lee.

HILBERT, Rebecca Lee, (b. Aug. 18, 1950).

HILBERT, Charles Griest, (b. July 16, 1926). Married on Sept. 7, 1947 to Jean Poole of Edgerton, Ohio, (b. Feb. 17, 1929). Charles is Asst. Cashier in the Edgerton State Bank where his father-in-law, Cranston Poole, is Vice-Pres.





Charles trained at Sampson, N.Y. for the Hospital Corps of U.S. Navy. Served at Bainbridge, Md. and Williamsburg, Va. with the rank of PhM 3/c. They live in Edgerton, Ohio, They have 2 children, Susan Florence and Christine Ruth.

HILBERT, Susan Florence, (b. May 13, 1948).

HILBERT, Christine Ruth, (b. May 19, 1951).

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IV. ASHELMAN, Glenwood, (b. July 4, 1878), at Newville. He married Coral Corbin of Hesperia, Mich. He was divorced and never remarried. No children. Visited Ruth Hilbert in 1916. That was the last he has been heard from. Believed dead. He was always sickly.

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MOSES married (2) to Mary Ann Davis (Simpkins) on Nov. 28, 1886. Mary Ann was b. June 25, 1843 and d. Nov. 4, 1943. She was married to a Mr. Simpkins before marrying Moses. After Moses died, she married Sylvester Hale. There was one child by Moses' 2nd wife.

A. WAGERS, Opal (Ashelman), (b. July 9, 1888). She married Ray Wagers, (b. May 28, 1886) at Cambridge, Ohio. He is a farmer and an electrician. They live in a large old farm home in Huntsburg, Ohio. Opal is fond of antiques and the house is filled with them. They had 3 children: Melvin, Mary and Alma.

WAGERS, Melvin Raymond, (b. April 16, 1920-d. Mar. 24, 1924).

VACCARRELLO, Mary Maxine (Wagers), (b. Sept. 14, 1921). She married on Oct. 12, 1940 to Francis Vaccarello (b. June 11, 1919). He is employed by the General Electric Co. at Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from Ohio State University. Their address is R.F.D. 1, Clardon, Ohio. They have 2 children, Mary Lou and Donna Jean.

VACCARRELLO, Mary Lou, (b. Mar. 26, 1942).

VACCARRELLO, Donna Jean (b. May 26, 1945).

TAYLOR, Alma Jean (Wagers), (b. Mar. 7, 1927). Married on Jan. 27, 1945 to Theodore Steven Taylor (b. Aug. 31, 1924). He is with the Form Weld Co., makers of metal boxes in Cleveland. Their address is Huntsburg, Ohio. Mr. Taylor served with the U.S. Navy in World War II as a coxswain in the Atlantic and Pacific waters. They have 2 children, David Mark and Melinda May.

TAYLOR, David Mark, (b. Mar. 30, 1949).

TAYLOR, Melinda May, (b. May 5, 1952).



BARBARA ELLEN - 1836-1903

Barbara Ellen was born on Nov. 13, 1836 in Wayne County, Ohio. When she was 7 yrs. old she moved with her family to Auburn, Indiana, where she lived the balance of her life. She grew up on the family farm east of Auburn and attended the usual school common in those days. It is reasonable to suppose she contributed her share of the work that had to be done around the home. She early learned all the duties of a household which all girls in those days had to know.

Barbara Ellen was twenty when her father died in 1856, and she was twenty-eight when her mother passed away in 1864. Her oldest sister, Elizabeth, was already married and had moved to a home of her own, and Barbara and Moses were left to run the home and care for the younger children of whom there were four girls and two boys. In 1865 Moses married and Barbara was head of the family until her marriage on Oct. 30, 1866 to Charles Eckhart. Charles was from Pennsylvania. He came to Indiana to visit his relatives near Waterloo. He had been discharged from the Union Army after the Civil War just a short time before.

Barbara was a woman of medium height, a little on the plump side. She had dark brown hair which later turned grey in her older years. She was an excellent cook and mother. She loved, as did all her sisters and her mother, to keep flowers and she spent time in her garden caring for them. Charles was the disciplinarian of the family and he was a very strict parent indeed, demanding obedience from all and getting it. He ruled the home with an iron hand. Family prayers were in order each day. Years later, Charles and Barbara joined the Christian Advent Church. This is not the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

In later years, grandmother Barbara was quite frail and her health was poor for years. After 1892 Charles retired. In 1893 they traveled considerably and spent the winters in Florida and later in California. They lived for 18 years in the brick home on five acres of land that Barbara had received in a trade from her brother Moses for her eighty-acre inheritance. Here Charles built his first buggy in the parlor. About 1892 Charles bought a new home in Auburn on the SW corner of Van Buren and Fourth Sts. It was here that Barbara died on Sept. 10, 1903, after a long illness.

To quote a letter from one of the relatives: "Mrs. Eckhart was a nice looking woman, quiet and gentle." Others have mentioned her outstanding trait was her kindness.

Charles was born Feb. 24, 1841 in Germantown, Pa. He died in Auburn, Ind. on Sept. 30, 1915. Charles was 5 years younger than Barbara. His parents were John Eckhardt, born in Darmstadt, Germany on August 2, 1805, and Carolina Fraley Eckhardt, also born in Germany. They came to America in 1838.

Charles had five brothers. At the age of eight he began to help his father, who was a weaver by trade, to spool yarn. He had a year and a half of schooling. At 16 he was apprenticed to a wheelwright and at 19 he owned his own wagon and buggy repair shop at Hilltown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.





In 1860 Charles enlisted in the 104th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry in the Union Army and served until May 20, 1863 when he was discharged because of heart trouble. At that time he was a First Sergeant. He re-enlisted later and remained in service until six months after the end of the war. His signature on the payroll was misspelled and the "D" dropped out of the name. Thereafter he used Eckhart.

Charles and Barbara moved to Pennsylvania in 1867 where their four children were born. Frank in Chester County, and Anna, Morris and William in Montgomery County, all not far from Phoenixville. Charles owned his own shops here, but due to the panic of 1873, they decided to move back to Indiana. In 1874 they acquired the brick home previously mentioned in a trade with Barbara's brother Moses. After using the parlor for a shop, Charles later built a small building close by, and from that humble beginning, the Eckhart Carriage Company grew into one of the major industries of Auburn. It supplied the wholesale trade for a complete line of buggies and surries. The company produced between 4500 and 5000 units each year during its better years. Charles retired in 1893 leaving the business in the hands of his sons.

On October 18, 1904, Charles married Martha A. Hoffman, (b. 1855-1937), the daughter of Rev. J.H. and Margaret Hoffman. Charles was a Republican when a younger man but in the late 1880's he became a Prohibitionist. He worked hard in this party and contributed funds to the State and National groups. He ran for several offices and once for Governor of Indiana on this ticket. He was originally a Lutheran but later joined the Christian Advent Church. He gave a building to the Advent College in Aurora, Illinois, and it was named Eckhart Hall in his memory. He gave to the City of Auburn, a Public Library and a City Park of several acres. With his son Frank he gave a completely equipped YMCA Building to his home town of Auburn.

Charles has been described as "a humble, earnest, honest workman, soldier, manufacturer, public-spirited citizen, philanthropist, Christian husband, father and friend to everybody." (Auburn Weekly Bee, Oct. 6, 1915).

The four children of Charles and Barbara Eckhart were:

- |                     |           |             |           |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| I. Frank            | 1867      | III. Morris | 1871-1942 |
| II. Annie (Shugers) | 1869-1942 | IV. William | 1873-1945 |

I. ECKHART, Frank Everhart, (b. Oct. 9, 1867). At the age of 16 he was made foreman of the paint shop of the Eckhart Carriage Co. Upon retirement of his father, he came off the road, where he had been selling buggies for some years and assumed the position of general manager of the company. In 1902 he built the first Auburn automobile and the next year, due to his efforts, the Auburn Automobile Company was formed and 25 cars were built and sold. This grew into a large and profitable business throughout the years. The company was sold out in 1918 by the family. Frank married on June 3, 1896 to Jessie Boland (b. Aug. 22, 1876-Mar. 28, 1898). Jessie Belle was the daughter of Michael and Celestia Maria (McMillen) Boland. Mr. Boland was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio. He became a telegrapher for the New York Central Railroad in Corunna, Ind. where he met and married Celestia Maria (Lettie) McMillen. She was the daughter of George and Jane Elizabeth (Calkins) McMillen. Mr. Boland served 4 yrs. as Postmaster at Auburn and was County Recorded for two terms. He was always very active in civic affairs and prominent in the Methodist Church.



He was on the school board for many years. In 1897 Frank and Jessie had a son, George Boland.

A. ECKHART, George Boland, (b. Oct. 11, 1897) in Auburn, Ind. He was married on Sept. 27, 1929 to Agnes Matilda Carmichael (b. June 12, 1901). They were divorced in 1935. They had no children. George attended De-Pauw University, Greencastle, Ind. He graduated from Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War I and in the U.S. Air Force in World War II. For several years he was an automobile dealer in California. Since 1942 he has been employed as a clerk with the Southern Pacific Railroad in Tucson, Arizona. Listed in The Handbook of American Genealogy, Vol. V. Address: Post Box 5315, Tucson, Arizona.

In 1903 Frank married (2) Grace Leiter (b. June 30, 1876), the daughter of Eli and Mary Leiter. They have two daughters: Mary Ellen and Josephine (Leonard).

In 1917 Frank moved to Los Angeles, Calif. There he has served as trustee of the Orthopedic Hospital for many years, as president of the Los Angeles YMCA for 12 yrs. and as trustee of the University of Southern California, being its vice-president part of the time. He has given liberally to charity and has been active in the Methodist Church. His home is at 719 North Camden Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif.

B. ECKHART, Mary Ellen, (b. May 6, 1904). She lives at home with parents at 719 North Camden Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif.

C. LEONARD, Josephine (Eckhart), (b. Sept. 26, 1905). She is a graduate of the University of Southern California at Los Angeles. She was married on Oct. 9, 1929 to Adna Wright Leonard, Jr., (b. 1904), the son of Bishop Adna Wright and Mary Day Leonard. Bishop Leonard (1874-1943) was Senior Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States. Adna, Jr. is a graduate of U.S.C. at Los Angeles. He owns and manages an Executive Placement Bureau in Pittsburgh, Pa. They have two children: Carley Jo and Barry. Home: 5734 Wullkins Ave., Pittsburgh, 19, Pa.

LEONARD, Carley Jo, (b. Oct. 18, 1932). In 1950 she enrolled in Groucher College for Women, Baltimore, Md.

LEONARD, Adna Barry, (b. Aug. 15, 1935).

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II. SHUGERS, Annie (Eckhart), (b. Jan. 22, 1869-June 4, 1942). She was married in October 1904 to George Shugers (Aug. 20, 1869-Oct. 10, 1937). George was associated with the Auburn Automobile Company at its beginning. In about 1904 they moved to Los Angeles where George had an auto trimming shop for many years. Later he was in the oil business in that city. They had an adopted daughter, Clara (Roulette).

A. ROULETTE, Clara (Eckhart by adoption), (b. Feb. 20, 1906). She was married in 1928 to John Roulette. They had three children: George, Ray and William. Home: 417 Kelso Ave., Inglewood, Calif.





ROULETTE, George Wallace, (b. Apr. 28, 1930). He was married on Dec. 15, 1950 to Joan Ball of Anaheim, Calif. George has been in the U.S. Navy since 1948.

ROULETTE, Ray Shugers, (b. June 9, 1932). He is enrolled in Redlands University, Redlands, Calif.

ROULETTE, William Roger, (b. June 6, 1934). He is attending high school.

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III. ECKHART, Morris, (b. Mar. 25, 1871-d. Apr. 15, 1942). Morris began working for the Eckhart Carriage Company as a blacksmith. In the early nineties he went on the road selling buggies wholesale. He was married in 1896 to Ada McEnterfer (b. July 11, 1874). They had a daughter Ruth. Morris became active manager of the Auburn Automobile Co. after his older brother's retirement. He developed the business into a large concern with well over a million dollars of net worth. The auto industry was sold to a Chicago bank in 1918. Two yrs. later he retired and moved to Los Angeles. Mrs. Eckhart maintains a summer home in Harbor Springs, Michigan and spends her winters at 203 S. Detroit St., Los Angeles, Calif.

A. JARVIS, Ruth (Eckhart), (b. Nov. 12, 1899, d. Jan. 1, 1933). She was a graduate of Smith College, Northampton, Mass. She was married on Aug. 12, 1922 to Lewis Jarvis (b. Aug. 1, 1890). They have two daughters: Betty Jo and Ann (Smith). Lewis lives at 155 E. 72nd St., New York 21, N.Y.

JARVIS, Betty Jo, (b. Sept. 18, 1923). She attended the University of Michigan. Address: Box 2070, Hartford, Conn.

SMITH, Ruth Ann (Jarvis), (b. July 2, 1930). She was married in Jan. 1950 to James Smith of New York City. They have two children. Home: 64-39 D. 186th Lane, Flushing, Long Island, N.Y.

SMITH, Martha Stewart, (b. Aug. 18, 1951).

SMITH, Richard William, (b. July 18, 1952).

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IV. ECKHART, William, (b. Jan. 18, 1873-d. Aug. 28, 1945). He learned the trimmer's trade in buggy and auto manufacture. He was married in 1894 to Nettie Willis (b. Jan. 15, 1874). About 1904 they moved to Los Angeles, Calif. where William was associated in business with his brother-in-law, George Shugers. They had two children: Charles and Edith (Scammell). Nettie lives at 2218 Parnell Ave., W. Los Angeles.

A. ECKHART, Charles Willis, (b. Sept. 27, 1895-d. Feb. 14, 1949). He was a graduate of Stanford University, Palo Alto. He served in France in W.W. I, 1918. He was married on Sept. 27, 1922 to Maude Mary Sitzman (b. June 29, 1900). They lived in Los Angeles some years, then moved to El Paso, Texas, where Charles was a traveling salesman for furnace manufacturers. They had four children: Charles, Sally (Norton), Joan and Gretl. Home: 4540 Trowbridge Ave., El Paso, Texas.



ECKHART, Charles Willis, Jr. (Tommy), (b. June 22, 1925). He is a graduate of the University of Texas 1949. In W.W. II he was a Lt. in Marine Aviation. He was married in El Paso on Jan. 31, 1949 to Rosemary Oden. She has an A.B. from University of Texas, 1948. Charles was employed by the Standard Oil Co. in the pipe line dept. of Mechanical Eng. They have a son Charles. Charles is now in the Marine Air Corps at Santa Anna, Calif. Address: 912 Seaview Ave., Corona Del Mar, Calif.

ECKHART, Charles Michael, (b. Dec. 22, 1951).

NORTON, Sally Sue (Eckhart), (b. June 22, 1931) in Los Angeles. She was married on Apr. 2, 1949 to Hassel A. Norton (b. July 12, 1929). He is studying to be a veterinarian at A & M College, Las Cruces, New Mexico. They have two daughters: Sharron and Pamela.

NORTON, Sharron Susan, (b. Nov. 10, 1949).

NORTON, Pamela Ann, (b. Feb. 8, 1952).

ECKHART, Joan, (b. Oct. 29, 1932) in Los Angeles. She is attending the College of Mines, El Paso, Texas.

ECKHART, Gretl, (b. Oct. 10, 1935). She is attending high school in El Paso.

B. SCAMMELL, Edith (Eckhart), (b. Nov. 1, 1898. She was married (1) to William Weifenbach (b. Aug. 20, 1899). They had a daughter Annette. They were divorced on June 6, 1930.

WEIFENBACH, Annette, (b. Apr. 17, 1925). She is a graduate of Pomona College, Claremont, Calif.; M.A. in Economics, Univ. of Calif. at Los Angeles. She is a cost analyst now working for a non-profit research organization.

Edith was married (2) on Sept. 27, 1940, to E. J. (Ted) Scammell (b. Sept. 14, 1891-d. Aug. 8, 1952) of St. John, New Brunswick, Canada. He became a naturalized citizen on Nov. 23, 1945. Home: 2213 Parnell Ave., W. Los Angeles, Calif. Ted died Aug. 8, 1952 of a heart attack in W. Los Angeles.

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MARY - 1838-1933

This introduction was written by Mary's grandson  
Charles A. Brandon.

Mary, fourth child of John and Maria Ashleman, was born in Wayne County, Ohio, on October 12, 1838. As a 5 yr. old she came with her family to DeKalb County in 1843, settling on the home farm east of Auburn, Indiana.

An Ashleman youngster of those days must have had an interesting, though rugged time. Much work for busy young hands to do, and a diligent, exacting, dominating Swiss father and mother to see that they did it! Gay times with brothers and sisters to supplant the lack of close neighbors! Life and nature





all about them, and each child discovering the hidden secrets of plants and birds and forest animals.

Very naturally, the children became amateur naturalists, acquiring a love and understanding of growing things which was to remain with them and become an absorbing interest to the end of their long lives.

At four score years and more, for example, a simple wild flower or chattering wren were cherished, happy sights to light the eyes of Mary. And the rugged simplicity of her early farm life must also have endowed her with that "country-toughness" which brought such length and tenacity of life.

Mary was one with her sisters, no smarter, no more industrious, no less maidenly. I doubt that any Ashleman youngster was ever actually giddy. Theirs was not the age for it, nor were they born to it. The early photograph with her brothers and sisters shows her sober, square of face, with a delicate look of ingenuous directness to discourage fripperies and flippancies. It is scarcely the face of a flirt!

At twenty-seven, a ripe age for a maiden of those days, Mary forsook "single blessedness." Frederick Raut, two years her senior, himself a man slow to romance and alliance, made her his wife, bringing her shortly thereafter to his newly-built, two-story, square brick house on the corner of Fifth and Cedar Streets, Auburn. This was to be Mary's home for all but 2 of the 67 remaining years of her life as well as the home of her daughter and family to the present 1952.

Frederick, a German Pomeranian, was born at Zedmin on January 28, 1840. Religious restraints in mid-century Germany brought him, with his father and brother Charles, to DeKalb County, paralleling in time and possibly intent a similar hegira on the part of Mary's parents.

In Auburn, father and sons resumed their old-world trade --that of harness and boots --and established a flourishing business. Sundays regularly found them in the old German Reform Church, attentive and reverent, listening to the two-hour sermon as delivered by Preacher Frederick Raut. It may have been here that Mary Ashleman, herself a person of prayer and faith, first saw and admired the future head of her family. As to Frederick's actual profession it has never been established whether his "side line" was harness or heaven!

Born to "F. and M. Raut" in the brick house on Cedar, October 23, 1866, eleven days after Mary's own 28th birthday, was their first son Edwin. Unendowed with the Ashleman tenacity of life, or perhaps the perennial victim of an unhygienic age, Edwin joined the legion of infant angels at the tragic age of 2 years, 2 months, 24 days. The young parents' grief can only be imagined.

Two years later, on April 22th, 1871, was born a second child --this "the girl who married dear old dad!". In the fashion of time, a somewhat flamboyant name was chosen, for what cause only Mary and Frederick knew, and the words "Delta Winona Raut" were meticulously inscribed in the German Bible with characteristic penmanship flourishes. Later, however, with typical Ashleman independence, and yielding to a flood of discontent at her naming, my mother soon washed out the "Delta" and settled on the familiar and appealing "Winnie" by which she has been affectionately known ever since.



Edwin's tragic death became less poignant as Winnie's cheerful prattle filled the house, and Mary's cup seemed overflowing when 2-1/2 years later a second son appeared to fill the "boy things" treasured since Edwin's death. William, dark-eyed, curly-locked, a raven-haired miniature of his handsome father and born to please with laughter and liveliness, came to the brick home on Sept. 20, 1874.

Mary's flower seemed full-blown! Healthy children, a prosperous and respected husband, a snug brick home. She surveyed her treasures. Perhaps a few sisters had as much. Surely none had more!

But tragedy stalks contentment! Mary had barely recovered from her latest confinement when Frederick's cough grew ominously worse. The couch that bore her son received the father. The dread diagnosis "Consumption" was whispered through the shade-drawn house. On April 22, 1875, Frederick coughed his last.

Caught up in grief, Mary surveyed her plight. Little Willie, a babe of 8 months, with "Big Sister" Winnie just past her 4th birthday, were now hers alone! The nest egg to care for the little ones had gone to Frederick's alternate who shouldered a musket and left for Appomattox. Small comfort now that the war had ended before the substitute soldier, seven hundred dollars richer, ever arrived at his Union encampment.

Mary's sisters and brothers rushed to her support. So did the open-hearted Rauts. But times were hard, and none had lavish funds to share. Mary with independence in her blood, set about to keep her home mortgage-free and within it, her family as healthy, happy, well clothed and fed as the few spare pennies allowed. In the end, the land sustains us all, and the family farm when parcelled among the Ashleman children provided the security she desperately needed. But Mary's tenant was not always expert, and there were poor growing years then as now. The kitchen garden behind the brick house brought fresh vegetables to the table in summer, and there was always that long row of canned fruits and vegetables in the cool dark cellar. And always the chickens, and for a time the cow! It was only a few years before her death that Mary "put up" her last can of sauce!

Mary raised her children in the fear of the Lord and the Poor House. Will and Winnie themselves helped as they could, and there was always the Ashlemans and the Rauts to lean on when roughest times were to be endured.

One more great sadness enveloped Mary at Will's death. By 1908 the doctors had a new name for it --tuberculosis. On July 29th of that year the same disease that took the father claimed the son.

Migraines plagued Grandmother Raut from early girlhood, perhaps the key to a self-imposed inner perfectionism, and aggravated, perhaps, by the pressure of her responsibilities. All of us still remember bringing her the camphor bottle when the attacks came on --spelling each other at heating flannel rags in a skillet over the wood stove to press to her aching temples. At such times she would whisper to me through pain, "Brother, you are good to me!"

Although she possessed great physical stamina, Mary was never really well. In her later years her carriage became pathetically bent and stooped, and her hearing extremely difficult. We would talk to her in our loudest voice, then







watch her face hopefully for the knowing smile that told us she heard and understood. Sometimes on her worst days we gave up trying, and were sad when she shook her head in desperate disappointment. Some of the news she would most loved to have known was lost in echoes in her little room. Her nerves, worn thin with severe and recurrent migraine, set up a bodily ague that never ceased, asleep or awake. Her head nodded with a million "yeses" and shook a million "no's."

Each Spring she drank her sassafras and elderberry tea. She eschewed drafts and was a constant warrior against ill-fitting windows. Her constant warning to her grandchildren concerned their flimsy clothing. Coats were never heavy enough, stockings long or thick enough, mufflers never wrapped tightly enough. Even cheeks were sometimes too red! We should take something to thin our blood!

She ate sparingly, preparing her own meals over her wood stove. She attributed great therapatic value to the one food she liked best and ate most -- yellow cheddar --the product of her dairyman ancestor.

Her interests when her children were grown were her vegetable garden, her farm, her fruit trees and chickens, her grandchildren, and her Bible! The latter shared with daily reading of first the Auburn Courier, then the Auburn Dispatch. Each day it fell to one of us to "Take grandma the paper."

Her Bible was dog-eared from daily use. Occasionally she would read passages in Frederick's German Bible, but her knowledge of the language did not extend beyond the most familiar passages. Occasionally she would draw pictures for the grandchildren's amusement or tickle the steel spring of her old fashioned clock to bring forth tinkling music.

During her 67 years of widowhood, Mary is purported to have one well-to-do suitor who promised her as a wedding gift the finest sewing machine money could buy. Apparently either his offer or his physical charm was not enough. Widow Raut would have none of either.

Her indomitable spirit sustained her fragile frame until two years before her death. Steadfastly she refused to be "looked after", maintaining her own quarters on the second floor of the brick on Cedar Street. It was as if, leaving that, she had lost her solitary fight of more than half a century to keep her own roof over her head.

Finally, at 93, with the debilities of age claiming her more and more, she moved to my mother's home next door. There, from an upstairs window facing her own home, she looked in vain for the lighted lamp in her own dark home as we for years had seen it shine, then black out in the empty night.

On the morning of January 14th, 1933 at half past six, Mary's tired, frail body breathed its last. Her time was out at 94 years, 3 months and 2 days.

I. RAUT, Edwin, (b. Oct. 23, 1866-Jan. 17, 1869). Age 2½ yrs.



II. BRANDON, Delta Winona (Winnie) (Raut), (b. Apr. 22, 1871). She grew up and went to school in Auburn. She married on Apr. 9, 1891 to Orin Brandon (b. Jan. 11, 1866-Sept. 12, 1946). Orin or Uncle Ora as he was known, was the son of Isaac and Barbara (Kutzner) Brandon. He was born on their farm 2 miles east of Auburn. When he was 17 yrs. of age he went to Texas and Indian Territory to seek his fortune, but returned, after two years, to Auburn and worked at the carpenter trade. In 1893 he was in partnership with Perry Long of Auburn and together they built some of the best buildings in that town. In 1903 he became engaged in the lumber business and continued in this line the rest of his life. Aunt Winnie will always be remembered by all her relatives for her outstanding kindness and her gentle disposition. Ora was a fireman in Auburn for many years. Aunt Winnie lives at 302 N. Cedar St. with her daughter Anna. There were 4 children from this union:

A. Russel	1892-1903	C. Anna (Olinger)	1899
B. Charles Andrew	1897	D. Mary Elizabeth	1910

A. BRANDON, Russel, (b. Oct. 6, 1892-July 26, 1903). He died of lock-jaw from a rusty nail in his hand.

B. BRANDON, Charles Andrew, (b. Mar. 14, 1897). His nickname was Gus and he went to school with the other Ashleman cousins in Auburn. He graduated from Princeton University with an A.B. degree. He was in the Naval Aviation in W.W. I., but not in active service. In W.W. II he was active in war bond drives, blood donation drives and in Civil Defense work. Charles married on May 4, 1929, to Eugenia Armstrong (b. Jan. 23, 1905). She came from St. Louis, graduating from the Mary Institute in that city and Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. in 1927. Charles was employed for many years with the Ralston Purina Co. in St. Louis. He is now in the advertising business in his own firm, the Winius-Brandon Co., 1706 Olive St., St. Louis. They live at #8 Willow Road, Clayton, Mo. They have 3 children:

BRANDON, Andrew, (b. Sept. 10, 1930). He has been a life long invalid.

BRANDON, Charles, Jr., (b. Jan. 11, 1932). He is attending college at Iowa State and studying for a dramatic career.

BRANDON, Elizabeth (b. Aug. 2, 1934). She is now (1952) a junior at John Burrows School in St. Louis and will enter Vassar when she graduates.

C. OLINGER, Anna (Brandon), (b. Apr. 25, 1899) in Auburn. She attended school there and graduated from the University of Indiana at Bloomington, Ind. in . She married George Olinger (b. Apr. 15, 1899-Aug. 29, 1951) on Sept. 1, 1924. George was associated with her father as a partner in the lumber business. He, George, died of a heart attack and Annie and her mother, who inherited the business, sold out their interests for over two hundred thousand dollars. They live together at 302 N. Cedar St., Auburn. The Olingers adopted a boy:

OLINGER, George (Buddy), (b. July 23, 1930). He is in Kora at present (1952), a private first class in the U.S. Air Force. Buddy graduated from Auburn High School.





D. HUSSELMAN, Mary (Brandon), (b. Dec. 29, 1910). She was married in 1947 to Wm. Husselman, an Auburn boy, and an attorney. Mary graduated from Auburn grade and high schools and from DePauw University at Greencastle, Ind. She spent 2 years with the Red Cross in Italy during W.W. II. William is a graduate of Indiana University at Bloomington, Ind., having majored in Law. He was a Captain in the Army Advocate's Office in W.W. II and spent 4 years overseas. They live on East 6th Street in Auburn. They have one child:

HUSSELMAN, Anne, (b. May 19, 1951).

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III. RAUT, William, (b. Sept. 20, 1874-July 29, 1908) at Auburn, Ind. He died at age 32. He never married. He was a carriage trimmer by trade and worked at the Kiblinger Carriage Co. in Auburn. He also worked at trimming automobile bodies in Auburn and later in Detroit. He died of T.B. of the throat.

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#### REGINA - 1841-1925

Regina was born in Ohio on June 15, 1841. She came to Auburn, Indiana, when she was 2 years old. She was given the same common grade school education that all the Ashleman children received. When she was 27 years of age, she married on Oct. 10, 1868 to Enos Weaver. He was born on Mar. 8, 1833. This date is taken from his tombstone in Evergreen Cemetery. We have very little information on his life. It is thought he was a farmer. There is some information that he made a trip abroad and had a rather gay time of it there.

Our best word picture of Aunt Regina comes from her granddaughter, Ethelwyn Weaver Dills. I quote, "Wayne and I often dropped in to see Grandmother. I remember her as a timid, religious soul, daily reading her Bible. I never remember her reading any other book. She had a sly sense of humor and loved to tell me about her ten-cent store glasses, and her herbs and flowers that she loved. I can recall her coming in from the woods with sacks of herbs to transplant in her garden. She often treated herself with herbs and often went into detail why this or that herb was good to take for this or that pain or ache. She never had a piece of baker's bread in the house, as I can remember, but she made a non-rising black bread a half-an-inch thick, which she said was very healthy. She always carried flaxseed in her pocket and fed me handfuls of it. She regained her second eyesight when she was in her seventies and would do fine sewing without glasses.

"She was always sewing. She would embroider large tablecloths and pillow slips. She created big patterns as she embroidered, drawing in pencil directly upon the material, then picking up the needle to work on that, then start designing again. It was a most amazing thing now that I look back on it.

"My grandmother's hair never turned gray, it was always brown. She wore a square of wool over her head, indoors and out, winter and summer. She was quite tall and always thin. I think her education was very meager, though she could read and write. She loved to embroider, but I never saw her do any plain sewing. She never had any new clothes, that I recall, but she never thought about them. She loved to go to the Holy Roller Church in Auburn, as their actions there amused her. She never entered into the activities, but she got a kick out of seeing what went on. I never recall her going to another church but her Bible



was her guide and her source of all reasoning and discipline."

I have this word from her son Albert, and I quote: "My mother was a good member of the Presbyterian Church and a good Christian. We children had to go to Sunday School every Sunday. My mother was an artist. She loved to draw pictures and most of her spare time was spent reading the Bible and making rugs and fancy goods. She told me she had read the Bible through 3 times."

Regina inherited some farm and city property. It seems she had a rather unfortunate experience with a lawyer friend in Auburn in regard to advice about the property. After this experience she never trusted a man. She kept her money hidden, in gold, somewhere in the house, and whenever money was needed she produced it from her hiding place. Her oddities were all on the good side.

Regina passed away on April 10, 1925. She had been in poor health for several years. She contracted a cold while working in her garden, that developed into bronchial pneumonia, which was the cause of her death. Enos passed away on May 10, 1878 when he was in his 45th year. Regina outlived her husband 37 years. She raised her sons from small boys during her widowhood. Her son William was the main support of the family. All the artistic strain that has come down through the family was manifest in Regina and in her descendants to a very marked degree. She raised her grandson Donald Weaver, as his parents were separated when he was quite young.

Regina and Enos had 4 children who were:

I. Albert	1871	III. William	1875-1943
II. Adilla Maude	1873-1874	IV. Franklin	1880-19__

I. WEAVER, Albert O., (b. Dec. 2, 1871). He was born and grew up in Auburn, attending school there. He went to work for Hebel Bros. Grocery when he was quite young and was with them eleven years. He went into the cigar manufacturing business in Auburn about the time of the Spanish American War. In October, 1895, he married Grace Weamer (b. Aug. 20, 1880). Grace's mother was Lois Baker Gregg and every one in Auburn well remembers Aunt Sally Weamer, as she was known, with much affection. About 1906 Albert moved to Chicago and shortly after that, a divorce took place. He has lived ever since in Chicago, Ill. He was, for many years, engaged in undercover work there, and also in the business of selling cigars. His address is 1501 North LaSalle St. It is interesting to note that he and Harry Trentman and Hi Henry owned a baseball team in Auburn about the turn of the century. Grace and Albert had 3 children:

A. Wayne	1897-1917	B. Ethelwyn (Dills)	1899
	C. Trevelyn		1900-1912

A. WEAVER, Albert Wayne, (b. Mar. 18, 1897-Mar. 15, 1917). He grew up in Auburn and attended grade and high schools there. He changed his name when he was ten to Anthony Wayne Weaver. This was not changed legally. In 1915 he graduated from Auburn high school and in the fall of that year, he entered DePauw University at Greencastle, Indiana. He became a member of the DKE fraternity there.

Wayne was one of four Ashleman cousins who all attended grade school together in Auburn. The other 3 are Charles Brandon, Vern Carmer and George Eckhart. The summer of 1916 Wayne was a reporter on the Indianapolis Star, one







of the youngest ever to be hired. The fall of 1916 he entered the University of Missouri at Columbia, Mo. to study journalism. He died while here in the spring of 1917 on March 15th, as a result of a "strep" throat infection. Wayne was a very studious fellow and read every book and magazine he could find.

He was interested in writing poetry and submitted many poems and essays to magazines. Ethelwyn writes, "his desk drawers were filled with rejection slips, but he did have a few things published. He always treasured a letter from Elbert Hubbard praising some of his efforts. Wayne earned all his spending money from the time he was a small boy, and for years clothed himself. He sold the Saturday Evening Post in Auburn for many years." He never was married. Here again is the artistic strain cropping out in the direction of writing.

B. DILLS, Mary Ethelwyn (Weaver) (Hills), (b. Feb. 18, 1899). Ethelwyn was born in Auburn. She grew up and attended grade school there. Her mother married again in 1908, moving to Hicksville, Ohio, to live and she lived with her grandmother Aunt Sally Weamer in Auburn. In 1912 she attended high school in Indianapolis, living with another aunt there. Shortly thereafter, she attended John Herron Art Institute in that city. She was graduated from high school in 1918 and by this time had spent considerable time in art studies. In 1919 she attended Tri-State College at Angola, Ind., remaining there through 1920. From 1920 through 1921, and again in 1922 and 1923, she worked as a commercial artist in Fort Wayne and for the Auburn Postal Card Co.

On May 23, 1923 she married Leon Burke Hills (b. July 4, 1892). He graduated from Washington University in 1920. He had one child from a former marriage. Her name was Barbara Jean Hills. He was a design engineer for the Western Electric Co. in Chicago. Ethelwyn attended the Art Institute in Chicago in 1923. The next year she held a position with Vogue Studios in that city. In 1924 she became associated with the Hall Bros. Greeting Card Co. of Kansas City, Mo. She was divorced in 1926 from Mr. Hills. She was one of the first artists to be employed by Hall Bros., and was his one and only artist at one time. She designed and executed their complete line and urged the Halls to branch out into more elaborate cards and better lithography, which they did and the line caught on. Today Hallmark cards are the leading brand, sold and advertised throughout the country. Ethelwyn remained with the firm until 1926 when she retired. At that time she was in complete charge of the Art Department, with the entire staff of artists under her, also her own secretary and office staff.

Ethelwyn spent many summers studying in Mexico, on the continent and in this country, with prominent artists. On January 15, 1937 she married Kenneth Olen Dills of Kansas City. He was born on Sept. 6, 1894. He owned the Dills Monarch Insulating Co., a firm specializing in home insulation. Kenneth was on the staff of General Eisenhower in W.W. I. He did not get overseas. He sold his business in 1946 when Ethelwyn retired and they moved to Carmel, Calif. They built a home here and lived here until 1950, when they moved to Napa, Calif. preferring that place over Carmel. Mr. Dills had one child from a former marriage. Her name is Barbara Jane and she is married to James L. Saunders.

The Dills have a new home in Napa at 1670 Muller Drive. Kenneth has a position as Public Relations Council for one of the large wineries in the valley. Ethelwyn has a fine studio attached to their home in which she can follow her artistic pleasure. She has a complete ceramic studio and designs and manufactures many types of ceramics. She has designed a line of crayon books for children that is very popular today.





SAUNDERS, Barbara Jane (Dills), (b. Nov. 28, 1928). She attended school in Kansas City and 1 yr. at Kansas City University. She married on Apr. 15, 1950 to James Liggitt Saunders. They were married in San Francisco where they were both working at the time. Jim is now the Washington State representative for the Congoleum Co. Their address is Apt. 235, 9056 Shorewood Dr., Seattle, Wash.

C. WEAVER, Trevelyn, (b. Dec. 23, 1900-June 3, 1912).

In 1908 Grace Weaver married Edward Culler of Hicksville, Ohio. She moved with Trevelyn, to Hicksville to live. Wayne and Ethelwyn lived in Auburn with their grandmother Weamer. Mr. Culler died in June 1923. He had 4 children by a previous marriage.

In 1925 Grace married Mr. Luther Martin Hibbs (1873-1934). He was a salesman and they traveled a great deal. Their home was in Portland, Ore. Mrs. Hibbs now lives at 1583 17th Ave., San Francisco, Calif. She has been most helpful in contributing to this history.

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II. WEAVER, Adilla Maude, (b. Sept. 17, 1873-May 17, 1874). She died as an infant, 7 months and 29 days of age. This information is all upon her tombstone in Evergreen Cemetery in Auburn, Ind.

III. WEAVER, William, (b. Aug. 5, 1875-Apr. 16, 1942). William was born in Auburn; grew up and went to school there. He was a sign painter, house painter, and paperhanger by trade. He married Estella Parry. They had one son Donald. They were not married very long until they were divorced and she went back to her home. He supported his mother. Grandma Weaver raised Don from the time he was a baby. Estella was born in 1886. They were married about 1908. About 1930 Don and his father moved to Encinitas, Calif. He operated a service station there and then retired. William liked to draw and paint. He collected shells and today he has, or rather Don has, his collection, which is one of the most valuable on the coast. His collection contains shells from all over the world. He was ten years collecting them.

A. WEAVER, Donald, (b. Jan. 11, 1911) in Auburn. He married on Apr. 14, 1938 to Ruth Sepper (b. Aug. 20, 1921) at Cardiff by the Sea, Calif. Don was a chef for some years at a popular seaside restaurant. His regular line of work is painting and decorating contractor. They were divorced in Sept. 1945. Don married on June 30, 1951 to Virginia Derrer (b. Aug. 24, 1920). She had 3 children by a former marriage who were adopted by Don. He has a great war record. He enlisted Sept. 1, 1943 in the 158th Reg. of Army Combat Team. He served in the South Pacific until June of 1945. He served as a Staff Sgt. in the Bismarck Archipelago, New Guinea, South Philippines and Luzon. He was wounded in the Philippines on June 2, 1945. He received the Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation, W.W. II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one bronze star, and the Asiatic Pacific Theatre Ribbon with 3 bronze stars. He served in 5 major campaigns, was shot six times by machinegun fire. He was in the hospital for 2½ yrs. and was discharged August 3, 1948. He is now living at 501 Grand Ave., Ojai, Calif. He is in the painting and decorating business. The children are:





WEAVER, Jerry Derrer (b. May 27, 1939).

WEAVER, Duncan Derrer (b. Oct. 18, 1940).

WEAVER, Jo Derrer (b. Dec. 21, 1942).

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IV. WEAVER, Franklin, (b. Apr. 30, 1880-Dec. 2, 1915). Frank was raised and went through school in Auburn. He was a buggy painter by trade. He worked in Auburn for the Zimmerman Mfg. Co. He also painted signs. Ethelwyn says, "while visiting at Grandmothers, Frank was usually sitting around the room drawing. Many a lesson I have had in perspective, paint mixing, etc. He was a prolific painter on canvas, cardboard or paper. Whatever came into his hand he had to draw on it. He didn't like to do anything but sit home and paint. Will was the one who went to work and fed the family, and paid the taxes. He was a steady and consistent person." Frank died of T.B. He died before his mother, preceding her by 10 years.

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#### ANNA - 1842-1928

(This introduction compiled by her grandson  
George Speer)

Anna was born on December 25, 1842 in Wayne County, Ohio. She came to DeKalb County in 1843 with her parents and was raised and went to school in Auburn like the rest of her brothers and sisters. No doubt, she attended school at the Carmer school house as probably most of the Ashleman children did. Anna was about five feet two inches in height and she was about 22 yrs. old when her mother died. She helped take care of the home and the younger children until the home was broken up. The following years were spent in the home of her sister Barbara, helping to care for the Eckhart children. Barbara and Charles Eckhart moved to Pennsylvania after their marriage and Anna spent two years with them in that state.

On May 23, 1871, she married George Walker, who was born in Smithfield Township near Waterloo, Indiana. He was born on Feb. 14, 1848. He was a farmer and owned a fine farm near Waterloo. The Walkers lived one mile north of Waterloo, and here they raised their family of four children, and lived the rest of their lives. Anna and George belonged to the United Brethren Church and remained faithful members all their lives.

Anna was a gracious and kindly person, loved by all who knew her. She was a semi-invalid for a good share of her married life, but it never soured nor embittered her disposition. To the contrary, it seemed to bring out a solemnity of soul as she grew older. Her love of flowers, birds and all outdoors was a characteristic she shared with all the Ashleman family. She had an old fashioned garden which bloomed under her green thumb. Her early blooming, sweet-scented English violets (brought from Pennsylvania) were eagerly sought by all the children of the neighborhood, as they bloomed early in February, long before the snows were gone from this part of Indiana.



Anna loved to sketch birds and flowers as she saw them from her chair by the window, where she was confined many days at a time. Her pictures of golden orioles and robins are treasured by her grandchildren, as well as many pieces of fine embroidery on which she transferred her bird and flower sketches. When the old home was broken up, she purchased the old Dutch Bible that came over from Switzerland with her parents.

George Walker was a very industrious and thrifty farmer. He was very well respected in the community. During their lifetime, Anna and George accumulated 320 acres of fine farm land. George was about five feet eight inches tall with a slender build and dark eyes and hair.

Anna died on March 2, 1928 at the age of 85 years. George died on Sept. 22, 1931.

Their 4 children were:

I. John	1872-1942	III. George William	1877-1946
II. Alice (Speer)	1873	IV. Charles	1880-1950

I. WALKER, John Henry, (b. Mar. 31, 1872-Mar. 12, 1942). John was a farmer and lived on his farm one mile south of Waterloo, Ind. He married on Apr. 11, 1894 to Laura Belle McCash (b. Feb. 15, 1874). John died at Lansing, Mich. They had 9 children:

A. Mable (Rowe)	1895	D. Chester Wayne	1907	G. Arthur Vernon	1911
B. Bertha (Vance)	1897	E. Lester Winn	1907	H. Lloyd DeLos	1913
C. Maude (Fee)	1904	F. Raymond Leroy	1909	I.(i) Caryl Eugene	1917

A. ROWE, Mable (Walker), (b. Nov. 5, 1895). She married on Aug. 18, 1917 to Harry Rowe (b. Oct. 26, 1894). He is a building contractor. Address: 21711 Powers Rd., Farmington, Mich. They have 3 children:

ROWE, Harry, Jr., (b. Dec. 9, 1919). He married on Feb. 24, 1945 to Rose Lyn DeMura (b. Apr. 16, 1923). He is a building contractor also, and lives at 21711 Power Rd., Farmington. He served in W.W. II in the Army. Holds American Theatre, and American Defense Service Ribbons, Vicotry Medal, Bronze Battle Star, Philippine Liberation Ribbon and 6-OS Service Stripes. He served 3 yrs. in the Pacific. They have one child:

ROWE, Patricia Ann, (b. Oct. 13, 1951).

FRYSINGER, Marjory Ann (Rowe), (b. Dec. 23, 1921). She married on June 29, 1946 to Kenneth Frysinger (b. Feb. 26, 1919). He is a mechanic by trade. Address: 32666 Menoninne St., Wayne, Mich. They have 2 sons:

FRYSINGER, Michael Rowe, (b. Sept. 24, 1947).

FRYSINGER, Jeffery Calvin, (b. Dec. 12, 1949).

ROWE, John Thomas, (b. Jan. 16, 1936). Senior in high school.

B. VANCE, Bertha Alice (Walker) (Hampshire), (b. Apr. 19, 1897). She married (1) on Apr. 15, 1915 to Rolley D. Hampshire. He was a real estate broker. They lived in Detroit, Mich. Bertha married (2) on May 15, 1949 to Erwin Vance





(b. July 18, 1887). He is a farmer. They live in Ray, Ind. Have one adopted son:

VANCE, Donald, (b. Jan. 3, 1923). He is a factory inspector at Briggs Mfg. Co., Detroit. Address: 2141 Dickerson Ave., Detroit. He is not married. at present (1952). He attended Tri-State College at Angola, Ind.

C. FEE, Maude Christine (Walker), (b. Aug. 12, 1904). She married on Aug. 16, 1924 to Hubert Dennison Fee (b. Feb. 12, 1899). He is a machinist by trade. Address: Box 576, Waterloo, Ind. He served in the U.S. Army in 1913, on the Mexican Border, and in England and France in W.W. I. He was a Lt. in the Officers' Reserve Corps until 1940. They have 2 children:

KEYS, Jean Loraine (Fee), (b. Oct. 26, 1926). She married on Aug. 14, 1949 to Dr. Robert Coleman Keys (b. Apr. 25, 1925). Dr. is a graduate of Indiana University at Bloomington, Ind. He graduated from Medical School in 1951. Jean also attended the University of Indiana. Their address is 1335 N. Alabama St., Indianapolis, Ind. Dr. has been a resident physician at Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. He served as an Ensign in USNR in the South Pacific aboard an aircraft carrier. He was overseas 13 mos. and in the Navy 3 yrs.

FEE, Raymond Clyde, (b. Mar. 18, 1931). He married on Nov. 25, 1949 to Charlotte Ann Schull (b. Oct. 21, 1931). He is parts and service manager for the Ford agency in Auburn. Address is Waterloo, Indiana.  
One child:

FEE, Jolene Kay, (b. Aug. 7, 1949).

D. WALKER, Chester Wayne, (b. Nov. 29, 1907). He married on Nov. 16, 1931 to Laura Holcom (b. May 16, 1908). He is a carpenter by trade. They live in Highland, California, at 1689 Case St. He is a twin to Lester. They have 4 sons:

WALKER, Jack Wayne, (b. Nov. 5, 1932). He is a carpenter. He lives at home and is registered for the draft. High school graduate.

WALKER, Leroy Winn, (b. June 2, 1934). In school.

WALKER, Clyde James, (b. Feb. 1, 1937). In 8th grade.

WALKER, Cleve John, (b. Feb. 1, 1937). Twin to Clyde. An invalid.

E. WALKER, Lester Wynn, (b. Nov. 29, 1907). Twin to Chester. He married on May 15, 1931 to Helen Kelly (b. Dec. 29, 1914). He is an automobile mechanic. Address: R.R. 2, Hobson Rd., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have one child:

WALKER, Robert Kelly, (b. Feb. 15, 1932). He married on Oct. 27, 1951 to Patricia Bundage (b. Jan. 21, 1933). He is a mechanic and they live, at present, with Lester W. Have one child.

WALKER, Rebecca Ann, (b. July 18, 1952).

F. WALKER, Raymond Leroy, (b. Oct. 12, 1909). He was married on Jan. 3, 1930 to Louise Christie (b. Aug. 25, 1913). He is an auto trimmer. Address is Portland, Michigan. They have 2 children:

WALKER, Joice Elaine, (b. Aug. 10, 1934).

WALKER, Janice Lee, (b. Feb. 26, 1936).



G. WALKER, Arthur Vernon, (b. Aug. 1, 1911). He was married on Mar. 8, 1931 to Neva Luttmann (b. May 16, 1916). He is a conductor for the Pennsylvania Railroad. Address: 816 Philla Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have 4 children:

WALKER, Richard John, (b. Mar. 26, 1932). Employed in car shops.

WALKER, Sharon Louise, (b. July 1, 1938). In school.

WALKER, Glenda Mae, (b. Sept. 23, 1940). 6th grade in school.

WALKER, Pamela Jean, (b. Nov. 9, 1946).

H. WALKER, Lloyd DeLos, (b. Jan. 28, 1913). He was married on Aug. 1, 1936 to Arletta Scott (b. June 29, 1919). He is a mechanic. Address: 122 East William St., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have 4 children:

WALKER, Terry Dean, (b. Aug. 29, 1937).

WALKER, Jerry Raymond, (b. June 20, 1939). In grade school.

WALKER, Jimmy Scott, (b. May 18, 1941). In grade school.

WALKER, Debra Ann, (b. Jan. 31, 1950).

I. (i) WALKER, Caryl Eugene, (b. Aug. 3, 1917). He married on Jan. 8, 1942 to Helen Alma Stanley (b. Jan. 8, 1922). Their address is 184 Lyter St., Bronson, Mich. He is a farmer. They have one child:

WALKER, Douglas John, (b. Oct. 13, 1942). In school.

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II. SPEER, Alice (Walker), (b. Nov. 20, 1873). She married on Sept. 17, 1899 to Charles Speer (b. Dec. 25, 1871-June 16, 1936). He was a district insurance agent. They lived in Waterloo, and at one time lived on a farm nearby. Mrs. Speer now lives on North Center St. in Waterloo, Ind. There were 2 children:

A. George Walker 1900

B. Mary Alice 1904

A. SPEER, George Walker, (b. June 17, 1900) at Waterloo, Ind. George was educated in Waterloo and married on Sept. 21, 1925 to Bertha Louise Schiek (b. Sept. 2, 1907). She is the daughter of Wilhelm Frederich Schiek (1859-1939) and Frieda Rika Schall Schiek (b. Mar. 21, 1867). They were born in Germany and came to America in 1890. They farmed near Waterloo. Mrs. Schiek lives with the Speers. George is a district insurance agent. Their address is Waterloo, Ind. George has been active in bond drives and was Civilian Defense Chairman for Waterloo during W.W. II. He is a charter member of the Lions Club and very active in all civic matters. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, and a staunch Republican. He was formerly a secretary of the Masonic Lodge. They have 3 children:

SPEER, Douglas Dean, (b. Jan. 13, 1931). He attended school in Waterloo and is now in the Ray Vogue School of Interior Decorating in Chicago, Ill. He is single.

SPEER, Shirley Lee, (b. July 27, 1934). Attending University of Indiana.

SPEER, Philip Paul, (b. Jan. 15, 1944). In school.





B. BOWMAN, Mary Alice (Speer), (b. Nov. 9, 1904). She married on June 6, 1926 to Waldo M. Bowman (b. Jan. 15, 1900). Mr. Bowman is a postal clerk in the U.S. Mail Service (Railway). They live in Waterloo, Ind., the corner of Maple and Center Sts. They have 3 children:

BOWMAN, Marvin Eugene, (b. Mar. 30, 1927). He is a chemist with the Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. of St. Paul, Minn. He graduated from Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., and served 2 yrs. in W.W. II. Address: 305 Woodbridge Ave., St. Paul, Minn.

BOWMAN, Mary Lou, (b. May 13, 1930). She graduated from Ball State College at Muncie, Ind., with a degree in nursing. She is now in the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind.

BOWMAN, Roberta Ann, (b. Apr. 9, 1936).

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III. WALKER, George William, (b. Mar. 2, 1877-Sept. 21, 1946). He married on Oct. 7, 1903 to Maude Myers (b. Sept. 5, 1879-July 24, 1945). Maude was from Ashley, Ind. Mr. Walker was a farmer. They lived one mile northeast of Waterloo. He was also in the insurance business. They had 2 sons:

A. Harold 1905

B. Clair 1911

A. WALKER, Harold, (b. Oct. 17, 1905). He was married (1) in 1924 to Mildred Bachtel (b. 1906). They were divorced in 1927. No children. Harold was in the service dept. of the National Mill Supply Co. He was married (2) in 1930 to Catherine Bennett (b. Mar. 29, 1904). They were divorced in 1935. They had one child:

ELMER, Joyce Nanette (Walker), (b. July 5, 1931). She is married to Dwight Elmer. Joyce works for the Bell Telephone Co., and Dwight is with the Essex Wire Co. They live at 1124 Nelson St., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have 2 children:

ELMER, Paula Louise, (b. Oct. 5, 1948).

ELMER, Cindy Lynn, (b. June 23, 1950).

Harold married (3) on July 16, 1948 to Charlotte Huffman (b. Aug. 13, 1909). Their address is 1124 Nelson St., Fort Wayne, Ind. No children.

B. WALKER, Clair, (b. Dec. 14, 1911). He was married on Aug. 16, 1936 to Elizabeth Ayers (b. June 30, 1915). Clair is a farmer. Their address is R.R. 1 Waterloo, Ind. They have 2 children:

WALKER, Betty Jane, (b. Feb. 11, 1938). 8th grade, Ashley school.

WALKER, Robert Clair, (b. May 30, 1948).

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IV. WALKER, Charles, (b. Dec. 3, 1880-July 26, 1950). He lived on the old Walker farm, inherited from Anna (Ashleman) Walker, east of Auburn, until about 1941, then moved to Ashley, Ind. He married (1) in 1901 to Ellen Moorman. He divorced her and married (2) Julia Cameron (b. -d. about 1947). He died in St. Joseph Hospital at Fort Wayne, Ind.



## WILLIAM - 1843-1912

William John was born Nov. 27, 1843 in Ohio. He received the regular grade school education similar to that given his brothers and sisters. He was a farmer all his life and inherited the property across the street from the old homestead. A word picture of William comes from his son-in-law, Dr. Herbert Kimmel. In a letter he writes, "it was my privilege to know him for only a short time prior to his death. During this period he was a very sick man. Under these conditions, it was not possible for him to reveal the characteristics he was accustomed to show. However, Mother Ashleman and their children, continually and very definitely, emphasized that he possessed some of the following physical, mental and emotional traits.

"He was a slender, erect, well-built man of perhaps five feet ten inches in height, with clear blue eyes and dark hair. He was a quiet man and loved his home and work to such an extent that it was almost impossible to induce him to make even brief visits to relatives and places beyond his immediate vicinity. He was slow to anger, but when aroused, his anger was terrific."

William married on Jan. 11, 1868 to Aurelia Chidsley (b. Oct. 2, 1846) in Jackson township, Ind. She was the daughter of Lyman and Eliza (Summers) Chidsley, who came to DeKalb Co. in 1844. Eliza's parents were John Summers (b. Apr. 8, 1795-July 3, 1873), and Elizabeth Summers (b. Nov. 11, 1797-July 17, 1877). Lyman Chidsley held various public offices in the county, including those of Coroner, Constable and Justice of the Peace. He helped build the first courthouse in 1868.

To continue from Mr. Kimmel's letter, "I knew Mother Ashleman for twenty years prior to her death. She was a fine looking woman of medium height, with dark brown eyes and dark curly hair. I have been told, by those who knew her in her youth, she was regarded as one of the most beautiful young women in DeKalb Co. and I have no doubt as to the truth of this statement. She, too, loved her home, but liked to travel. She visited us many times, once for seven months in 1929.

"She enjoyed telling of her visit to the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, when Nellie was six months of age. Of all her fine qualities, I think her ability to get along with others was the most remarkable. She was a refined woman by instinct. She was never contentious, although she would assert her rights when it seemed necessary. We were always glad to have her in our home. She supplied what few mother-in-laws are able to supply. She made for unity in our home, rather than what most parents often contribute when they live with their children. If it should become necessary for me to live with my children, I hope I shall be as welcome as she was in our home."

It is needless to say that William and Aurelia were loved and respected by all their relatives and neighbors. William died Aug. 26, 1912, and Aurelia died Dec. 18, 1931. Their children were four:

I. Lyman	1869-1930	III. Frank	1875-1946
II. William, Jr.	1872	IV. Nellie (Kimmel)	1893





I. ASHLEMAN, Lyman, (b. June 17, 1869-July , 1930). He married (1) in 1899 to Minnie Dorsey (b. 1881-1903). She was from Hicksville, She died of T.B. 18 months after marriage. Lyman married (2) in 1903 to Elizabeth (Lizzie) (Snell). She was born in 1882 and died in 1927. They lived in Auburn. Lyman inherited the Ashleman artistic strain. He was a striper of carriage bodies and an expert in his line. He worked for the Eckhart Carriage Co. The writer can recall, as a small boy, watching him stripe and decorate bodies with all the fancy designs and the bright colors popular in those days. He later worked for the Auburn Auto Co. He owned one of the best private libraries in Auburn. He had about 500 volumes of History and Classical Literature. All his life he was interested in medicine, history, literature and politics. He was a steady patron of the Public Library after it was established. Lyman and Lizzie had no children. Lizzie and her mother, Auntie Snell, took care of the writer when he was only a few weeks old. His parents were in California for his mother's health. Auntie Snell was a fine old German lady loved by everyone.

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II. ASHLEMAN, William John, Jr., (b. Mar. 19, 1872). William married Clara Edith Stafford (b. May 23, 1877). They have always lived in Auburn and they now live at 215 West 13th St. William worked at the Eckhart Carriage Co. He is a carriage trimmer by trade. He owned and operated a paint store in Auburn for 13 years. He is now retired. He also worked for several years for the Auburn Automobile Co. They have 2 children:

A. Howard William 1902

B. Edith Alice 1904

A. ASHLEMAN, Howard William, (b. Sept. 25, 1902). He married on June 8, 1929 to Margaret Hixon (b. Oct. 29, 1907). She was from Crown Point, Ind. Howard graduated from John Herron Art Institute at Indianapolis, Ind. in 1927. Margaret attended the University of Indiana at Bloomington and graduated from Northwestern in 1927. She taught 2 yrs. She is a member of the Tri Delta Sorority. Howard is a commercial artist and is associated with the Ross Roy Studio in Detroit, a commercial advertising firm. They live at 5308 Eishop Rd., Detroit, Mich. He is another member of the family who has inherited the family characteristic, the artistic strain. They have a son, Richard:

ASHLEMAN, Richard William, (b. Apr. 24, 1931). He is William III. He is attending Michigan State College at East Lansing, Mich. and studying a course in Journalism. He is the last one in this branch bearing the Ashleman name. The only other branch that can carry on the name will be descendants of Moses.

B. BAKER, Edith Alice (Ashleman), (b. July 10, 1904). She married on June 6, 1928 to Edward Baker (b. July 10, 1904). His father and grandfather both were named Ed Baker and were in the baking business for many years in Auburn. He is a Sigma Chi from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. He is associated with the Messinget Corp. in Auburn in a sales capacity. Their address is 215 West 13th St., Auburn. They have one child, Nancy Alice:

BAKER, Nancy Alice, (b. Mar. 19, 1931). Nancy attended college at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. She is a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority. She is a private secretary and works in Auburn. She lives at home.



III. ASHLEMAN, Frank, (b. Aug. 28, 1875-Nov. 3, 1946). Frank was a farmer, and lived on his father's farm east of Auburn. He married on Dec. 11, 1898 to Gay Simons (b. Oct. 31, 1879). They had 2 children. Gay lives with son, Charles, in Detroit, Mich.

A. Oma 1900

B. Charles 1906

A. BUNGE, Oma (Ashleman), (b. June 25, 1900). She was married on Sept. 22, 1917 to Jay Bunge (b. May 23, 1894). Jay is a carpenter. He served 18 months in the U.S. Navy in W.W. I. They live in Waterloo, Ind., on Grant St. They have 6 children:

Alice Gay  
Eloise Maurie

Don Jay  
Dale Waldo

Beverly Joan  
Carol Ann

EULITT, Alice Gay (Bunge), (b. July 29, 1920). She married Earl Eulitt (b. Mar. 7, 1917). He is advertising manager of Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co., Toledo, Ohio. They were married on Mar. 24, 1940. They are both high school graduates. Address: 2742 Monroe St., Toledo, Ohio. They have 2 children:

EULITT, Dianne Gay, (b. Mar. 12, 1943).

EULITT, Jan Denice, (b. Nov. 26, 1948).

EBERHARD, Eloise Maurie (Bunge), (b. July 30, 1921). She graduated from high school. On May 31, 1942 she married Hershel Eberhard (b. Nov. 4, 1917). Hershel graduated from Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., School of Pharmacy. He is a production chemist at Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo, Mich. Address: 2828 Broadway, Kalamazoo, Mich. They have 2 children:

EBERHARD, Daniel Frank, (b. Feb. 4, 1948).

EBERHARD, Jack William, (b. Sept. 15, 1951).

BUNGE, Don Jay, (b. July 22, 1924). Graduated from high school and Ind. Central College in Indianapolis, with a B.A. degree. He is a coach and teacher. He teaches Biology and Physical Education, and coaches basketball. He was in the 11th Airborne Div. of U.S. Army and served 3 yrs. in the Philippines and Japan in W.W. II. He held the rank of Corporal. He married on Apr. 6, 1947 to Janice Shockley (b. June 11, 1927). She is a high school graduate. He will teach in Bremen, Ind. in 1952. Address there is 603 West North St.

BUNGE, Dale Waldo, (b. Feb. 12, 1926). He lives at home in Waterloo. He is in poor health. He is not married. He spent 2 yrs. in Waterloo high school;

HEFFLEY, Beverly Joan (Bunge), (b. Dec. 2, 1927). Graduated from high school. She married on Feb. 13, 1946 to Ralph Newman Heffley (b. Mar. 17, 1925). He is a high school graduate and served 2 yrs. in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific, with the Amphibious Forces. He is a farmer. Their address is R.R., Auburn, Ind. They have 3 children:

HEFFLEY, Michael Newman, (b. Apr. 26, 1947).

HEFFLEY, Toni Lyn, (b. May 10, 1948).

HEFFLEY, Shelia Joan, (b. June 28, 1949).

GLANT, Carol Ann (Bunge), (b. Nov. 27, 1932). She graduated from high school in Waterloo. She married on June 11, 1951 to Thomas Glant (b. Jan. 19, 1933). Thomas is a corporal and station at McCord Air Base, Tacoma, Washington. She is living in Waterloo with her parents.





B. ASHLEMAN, Charles, (b. Feb. 5, 1906). He was born in Auburn, attended high school there. He attended John Herron Art School in Indianapolis, Ind. About 1933 he moved to Detroit to live. He married on Mar. 24, 1928 to Isobel Lingle (b. Jan. 21, 1910). She is from Hamilton, Ind. She attended high school there and Ball State College at Muncie, Ind. Charles is with the same firm as his cousin, Howard, the Ross Roy, Inc., Advertising. He is also a commercial artist. There is the strain again. His mother, Mrs. Frank, lives with him. Address: 5272 Drexel St., Detroit, Mich.

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IV. KIMMEL, Nellie Eliza (Ashleman), (b. Mar. 15, 1893). Nellie attended school in Auburn. She married on Aug. 19, 1912 to Herbert Kimmel (b. July 9, 1883). Dr. Kimmel has been a teacher by profession. He has been retired since 1951, but has done some work since then with a publishing firm. Dr. Kimmel taught in the Auburn High School around 1912-13. Several of the Ashleman descendants including Vernon Carmer, Charles Brandon, Wayne Weaver and George Eckhart, were pupils of his. He taught for many years at Women's College, Univ. of North Carolina. He holds the following degrees: A.B. from University of Indiana, Bloomington; Ph.M. from University of Chicago, and Ph.D. from the Univ. of North Carolina. The Kimmels live at 2526 Camden Road, Greensboro, N.C. They have resided here for the past 25 years. They have 2 children:

A. Herbert Lyman 1922

B. Jane Vashti 1926

A. KIMMEL, Herbert Lyman, (b. Mar. 20, 1922). He graduated from the University of North Carolina with a degree in English. He entered the U.S. Navy in Feb., 1942, and trained at Harvard. He received his commission as a Lt. J.G. upon graduation from North Carolina, having been in the ROTC there. He was in Communications. He served 4 yrs. in W.W. II and was in the battle of Okinawa.

After his discharge, Herbert studied law at Wake Forrest College in North Carolina. He was recalled to the Navy, and since the summer of 1950, has been assistant to the Harbor Master at Yokasuka, Japan. He is in charge of small craft there. He will stay in the Navy another 3 yrs. He is a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity.

B. KIMMEL, Jane Vashti, (b. Apr. 29, 1926). Jane lives at home with her parents. She graduated from Women's College at the University of North Carolina. She is employed by the Department of Internal Revenue. She is very interested in Art and attends evening classes. She has submitted paintings locally and has received some awards and special mention.



CHRISTOPHER - 1845-1927

Christopher was born in Auburn, Indiana, on August 19, 1845. He received the common school education that all of the children had in the local schools. He grew up and helped his father in the general work of the farm, thereby learning the farming business. He later owned and operated farms near Auburn and was engaged in the business of Landscape Gardening. He was an expert at tree grafting, and his work and advice along this line was much in demand.

He married on September 14, 1873 to Jennie Slayman. She was born on Apr. 11, 1854, in DeKalb County. In 1890 they moved to Toledo, where Christopher engaged in the Landscape Gardening business. Mrs. Ashleman was injured in an accident involving her bicycle and a runaway horse. She met her death on Aug. 17, 1897. The family then returned to Auburn. Christopher lived there until his death, with the exception of some time spent in Fort Wayne with his daughter. He died in Auburn on August 10, 1927.

In 1902 Christopher made a trip to Switzerland, the native country of the family. He tried to establish contact with the Ashlemans there, but was not successful. He and his daughter, Pearl, traveled extensively in the South and in California. Christopher was a well respected citizen and "his word was as good as his bond", as the saying goes. His reputation for honesty and integrity was typical of all the members of the family of his generation. There were 2 children born to the Ashlemans:

I. Clyde 1879-1889

II. Pearl May 1888

I. ASHLEMAN, Clyde, (b. May 28, 1879-Oct. 5, 1889). He died as a baby, age seventeen months.

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II. McCoy, Pearl May (Ashleman), (b. Aug. 2, 1888). Pearl attended grade school in Auburn. She traveled extensively with her father, and while in the South, attended Grant University, Chattanooga, Tenn. Later, she enrolled in the International Business College at Fort Wayne, Ind. Pearl inherited the artistic strain that runs in the family and has always been interested in interior decorating and color harmony.

<sup>JUNE</sup> She married on Feb. 24, 1913, to Angus Cameron McCoy. Angus was born ~~July~~ 11, 1886, in Allen County, Indiana. He attended the International Business College at Fort Wayne. He is a Certified Public Accountant by profession. He was Auditor of Allen County from 1919 through 1922, and for four years, Comptroller of the City of Fort Wayne. In 1933, he organized the Tax Payers' Research Association and served as managing director and secretary until 1947. He has been the president since then. He is active in civic matters. He was president of the Kiwanis Club in 1927. He is a member of the Masonic bodies and the Shrine. He is a thirty-second degree Mason in the Scottish Rite. The McCoy's live at 1301 Vermont Ave., Fort Wayne, Indiana. They have one child:

A. Beverly Joan 1919

ANGUS DIED APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>, 1960





I. BINDHAMMER, Nora Dell (Saxton), (b. Feb. 2, 1875). She was born in Auburn and grew up there. She married Charles Bindhammer (b. June 30, 1896-1942). They lived in Chicago for many years, and in 1943, moved to Miami, Fla. He was a business executive. Nora lives at 1185 No. West 37th St., Miami 37, Fla. She lives with her son, Earl. They had 2 children:

A. Earl 1896

B. Carl 1915-1948

A. BINDHAMMER, Earl, (b. June 29, 1896). He married on Aug. 2, 1950 to Helen Mitruska (b. Apr. 14, 1910). Earl owns and manages an automobile repair business. They have no children. Earl was in the University of Chicago War School of Military Science and Tactics. He did not get overseas. Their address is 1185 N.W. 37th St., Miami 37, Fla.

B. BINDHAMMER, Carl, (b. July 18, 1915-July 23, 1948). He married on Aug. 20, 1938 to Verona Sheets (b. June 29, 1920). He was in business with his brother, Earl, in partnership. Mrs. Bindhammer now lives in Phoenix, Ariz. They had 2 children:

BINDHAMMER, Carl, Jr., (b. Oct. 1, 1940).

BINDHAMMER, Richard, (b. Jan. 1, 1944).

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II. SAXTON, Erle, (b. July 10, 1877-Jan. 2, 1944). He was born, grew up and went to grade and high school in Auburn. He was a builder, contractor and architect. He married Blanch Lannum (b. Apr. 11, 1883-July 22, 1944). Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Los Angeles, Calif. Here they spent 2 yrs. and then moved to Oakland, where Erle engaged in the business of contracting and architecture. They lived here until their death. They had 3 children:

A. Erle, Jr. 1908

B. Ralph 1910

C. Jack 1912

A. SAXTON, Erle Eugene, Jr., (b. Sept. 7, 1908). He married on Apr. 12, 1937 to Jane Snaveley. He is agency supervisor for the Shell Oil Co. at Las Vegas, Nevada. He graduated from Healds Business College. Their address is 1051 Griffin Ave., Las Vegas, Nev. They have 3 children:

SAXTON, Erle Spencer, (b. Dec. 23, 1938).

SAXTON, Sue Ann, (b. July 17, 1942).

SAXTON, Peggy, (b. Aug. 6, 1948).

B. SAXTON, Ralph, (b. Dec. 7, 1910). He married on Aug. 25, 1935 to Georgia V. McCune (b. Nov. 30, 1914). He is employed by the Trim Set Co., makers of steel window sash. Their address is 1029 Sunnybrook Dr., LaFayette, Calif. Ralph attended the Univ. of California at Berkeley and studied engineering. They have 2 children:

SAXTON, Diane, (b. Apr. 30, 1939).

SAXTON, Shari Lee, (b. Mar. 29, 1941).

C. SAXTON, Jack Manley, (b. July 22, 1912) in Oakland, Calif. He married Roma Laurenzo (b. Apr. 15, 1908). Jack attended Armstrong College and studied accounting. He was in the Army Air Force in W.W. II. His unit was the 867th



MER - WELTON, INDIANA
 A. FRANZMAN, Beverly Joan (McCoy), (b. Sept. 7, 1919). She attended school in Fort Wayne and MacMurray College at Jacksonville, Ill. She attended the International Business and Art School. Beverly married on Apr. 11, 1945 to John Franzman (b. Apr. 22, 1920). He is a teacher in the Franklin School at Fort Wayne. He served as a Master Sgt. in the Air Corps in W.W. II. John attended college at Ball State College. He graduated in 1948 with a B.S. degree, and is now studying for his Master's at the Univ. of Ind., Bloomington, under the G.I. Bill. Their address is 919 Columbia Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind. They have 3 children:

FRANZMAN, Terry Allen, (b. Feb. 9, 1946).

FRANZMAN, Sandra Joan, (b. Oct. 18, 1948).

FRANZMAN, Stephan Ross, (b. June 27, 1950).

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#### ROSA - 1850-1945

Rosa was born in Auburn on February 28, 1850. She was the youngest of the nine Ashleman children. She was only six years of age when her father died, and fourteen when her mother passed away. The family arranged for her to attend a Catholic School in Fort Wayne for a few years. She was treated with much concern by all her brothers and sisters, and as a consequence, she never was called upon to do the hard and drudging work that the others had to do. She even was spared the housework, and I imagine the cooking. In the convent, she learned to draw and sew and many other lady-like accomplishments.

She was married on Dec. 25, 1871 to Thomas Jefferson Saxton. She was 21 years of age at this time. I quote from a letter from Nellie Kimmel, "she was very religious. She studied the Bible diligently and thought a great deal about the hereafter. She joined the Zionites and contributed liberally to their cause. She was lovable and generous, and I shall always remember her with affection." Rosa inherited the old home farm and lived there for some years. Later she moved to a home in Auburn.

Thomas Jefferson Saxton was born in Baldwinsville, N.Y. on October 15, 1837. His parents were Russel and Dorinda (Tappen) Saxton. Thomas had a fine education for those days. He attended high school in Fort Wayne, Ind. and college at Oberlin, Ohio. He began teaching in 1859. My father, Frank Eckhart, told me that he was taught by him, as a boy, in Auburn. He taught in Ohio and Indiana. He taught 4 yrs. in the Auburn grade schools. He was appointed Deputy County Treasurer in 1873 and served 4 years. He also served as Clerk of the Court and as Deputy County Auditor. In 1884, because of poor health, he retired from teaching and entered the insurance business. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. He was an ardent Prohibitionist for many years. The above data came from a book of DeKalb County published in 1885.

Mr. Saxton died in 1900 on May 2. He was 63 years of age at that time. He married when he was thirty-eight. Rosa outlived him by forty-five years, passing away on January 23, 1945, at the age of ninety-five years. They both lived in Auburn. They had 3 children:

I. Nora Dell 1875      II. Erle 1877-1944      III. Hugh





Chemical Co. He served as a Corporal in England, France, Germany and Central Europe and the Rheinland. Jack works as an oil blender for the General Petroleum Corp. They live at 1600 88th Ave., Oakland, Calif. They have no children.

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III. SAXTON. Hugh, (b.                      ). He was killed when small as a result of a fall from a pony he was riding. He was about eight years of age when this accident occurred. He was kicked or trampled to death.

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PART III

APPENDIX





WILL OF JOHN U. ASHLEMAN

Recorded March 11, 1856  
S.W. Sprott, Clerk

I, John Ulrich Ashleman, of Union Township, DeKalb County, State of Indiana, do make and publish this, my last will and testament, hereby revoking and making void all wills by me at any time heretofore made.

First: I direct that my body be decently interred and that my funeral be conducted in a manner corresponding with my estate and situation in life. And as to such worldly estate as it has pleased God to entrust me with, I dispose of the same in the following manner to-wit: I direct first that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid as soon after my decease as possible, out of the first moneys that shall come into the hands of my executor from any portion of my estate, real or personal. I also direct that a fair valuation or appraisement be made by the judicious neighbors of all my personal estate, including household furniture, as soon after my decease as convenient, and after being signed with the names, that a copy of the same be given to each of my executors. Said appraisers to be selected by my executors. I also direct that all my personal estate goods, chattels, moneys, notes, mortgages of whatsoever kind shall be delivered to my wife, Maria Ashleman, to be after the payment of my debts as aforesaid, out of the same for her benefit, and the benefit of my children, all of whom at this time are minors, and shall be subject to her control and at her disposal as long as she shall live, and in case of her death, then to be distributed or sold and the proceeds thereof to be distributed to my heirs, then living, share and share alike and in case of the marriage of my said wife, then the personal estate aforesaid to be appraised and my said wife to have one third thereof, and the remaining two-thirds to be disposed of as they may think best for the benefit of all my children, then living, equally by my executors. I also direct that all the cleared land with the appurtenances thereof belonging to the farm where I now live in said Township of Union and made on Sections twenty-eight, thirty-two and thirty-three in said Township of Union, together with the proceeds of an eighty acres of land which I own in Butler Township in said DeKalb County, described as follows to-wit: The Southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-two and the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section twenty-three in said Butler Township. Eighty acres shall be for the benefit of my wife and children, and to be at the disposal of my said wife as long as she shall live, or remain my widow, but in case of the death of my said wife, then the proceeds of all my said lands to be applied by my executor to the benefit of all my children then living, equally, share and share alike, and in case the marriage of my said wife, then the proceeds of my lands aforesaid, to be distributed by my said executors as follows: One third of said proceeds to my said wife, Maria, as long as she lives, and the remaining two-thirds thereof to my children aforesaid, equally, share and share alike, all of said proceeds to be subject to any deduction therefrom before any distribution thereof of any incumbrance by way of lease or otherwise that now lies on any of my said lands.

Second: I direct that in case of the death or marriage of my said wife, Maria, three commissioners shall be appointed by the Court of DeKalb County then having jurisdiction of such matters, an application by my executors to set off dower of my widow, married, and make division of all my lands among my children



then living, thus, to each of my boys, land worth one hundred dollars more than the portion of land that may be given to each of my girls, and in case of the death of my wife, then all my lands to be equally divided among all my children, share and share alike. Except as aforesaid, that is to say, to each of my boys then living shall be allotted portions of land worth each one hundred dollars more than the share of land allotted to each of my girls, and all the girls to share alike.

Third: I do hereby make and ordain my worth and esteemed friend, Samuel W. Sprott and my wife, Maria, Executors of this my last will and testament.

In Witness whereof, I, John U. Ashleman, the testator, have hereunto set our hand and seal this twenty-seventh day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

John U. Ashleman (Seal)

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the above named John U. Ashleman as his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto, in the presence of said testator and in the presence of each other.

John Sibert

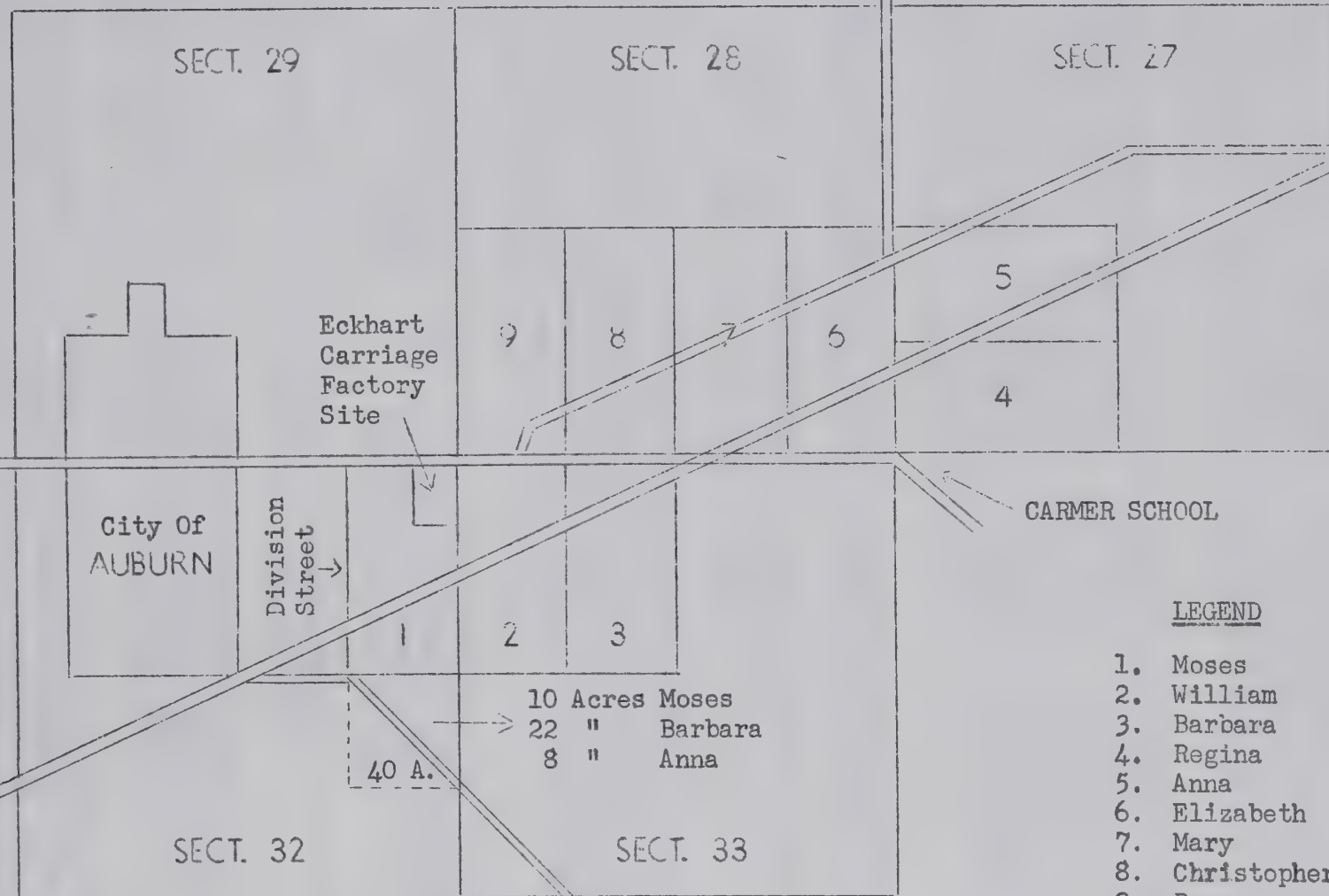
John Danbert





## UNION TOWNSHIP

↑  
TO WATERLOO

LEGEND

1. Moses
2. William
3. Barbara
4. Regina
5. Anna
6. Elizabeth
7. Mary
8. Christopher
9. Rcsu  
(old home place)

SHOWING THE LAND INHERITED BY THE 9 ASHLEMAN CHILDREN  
Imposed upon a map of DeKalb Co. of 1663.



## THE LAND HOLDINGS AND LAND INHERITANCES

When our grandparents came to America from Switzerland in 1832, they first settled in Wayne County, Ohio. Like all thrifty Swiss folks, the ownership of land was held to be of great importance. And rightly so, Grandfather John and Grandmother Maria were no exception. We find, in searching the early records, that on August 11, 1833, John purchased 40 acres in Range 11, Township 16 (Shugar Creek), Section 27 for \$500.00. The next day, on August 12, he bought 20 acres in the same section, township and range for \$170.00. These data came from the Recorder of Wayne County, Ohio. We have not been able to determine when this land was sold.

In 1836, after John had established himself and his family in Ohio, he made a trip to DeKalb County, Indiana. This was a new section just being opened for settlement. When John arrived in Auburn, there were only two or three houses there. He "entered" land at the Federal Land Office in Fort Wayne. It is presumed he paid the then going price of \$1.25 per acre. It is of interest to note that the deeds of this land were signed by President Martin Van Buren and were written on sheepskin parchment. Cousin Don Weaver, I understand, has one of these original deeds.

A map has been provided for your convenience in following this land story. In the records of DeKalb County, we find the following entries:

May 20, 1836	entered	160 acres in	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of	Section 27	Union Twp.
May 20, 1836	"	80 acres in	S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$	"	28 " "
May 20, 1836	"	160 acres in	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of	"	28 " "

After this purchase, John returned to Ohio to assist in raising his family. We do not know what provision he made at this time for the clearing of his land, but it is doubtful if he made any. Possibly he may have arranged for the clearing of a home site or a home farm. In 1843, the family moved to Indiana. Immediately, this same year, John began to buy more land. We have the records of the following:

June 20, 1843	purchased	120 acres in	Section 33	of John Farbay.
Aug. 29, 1843	"	40 acres of	Wesley & Sophia Parks,	\$105.00.
May 10, 1845	"	80 acres of	Isaac & John Spencer.	
May 1845	"	40 acres of	Abel Forshey	

In addition to this, he bought 40 acres in Butler Township near the village of New Era. We have no record of when this land was sold.

It is easy to see that our grandfather was land minded. It has been generally understood that upon his death John owned over 900 acres of land. This completes the records that are available on the land that John owned. He may have bought other pieces and sold them from time to time.

It will be noted that John purchased only the south half of 80 acres in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 28 and the full SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of this same section. After searching the records, the writer found that the other 80 acres in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 28 was purchased by Moses in 1864 from a Mr. Wadsworth who had entered it from the Government. This was done, no doubt, to round out the family holdings. We





find that when the final division was made the following year it was divided between Rosa and Christopher. Rosa received the 40 acres just north of the old house and the old home buildings. Christopher received the 40 acres adjoining Rosa's on the east. Moses, no doubt, took other land to compensate for this 80 acres. It may have been the Butler Township property.

There was a parcel of 40 acres in Section 32. It lies directly south of the  $E\frac{1}{2}$  of the  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 32. In the division, Moses received 10 acres of this, Barbara Ellen, 22 acres and Anna 8 acres. Moses inherited the  $E\frac{1}{2}$  of the  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 32. He built a brick home on the NE corner of this land fronting on East 7th Street. After his sister Barbara returned from their home in Pennsylvania in 1874, he traded this home and 5 or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  acres of this to her for her 80 acres which she inherited and which lies just east of William's 80 acres. He may have received the 22 acres she had in the 40 just south of this land. We cannot tell about this.

In 1865, acting under a court order, S. Kurtner, John Davis and Christopher Buss were appointed commissioners to partition the Ashleman land among the 9 children. They did so, and the partition was accepted by the court on August 9, 1865, and deeds were made and recorded to that effect. The accompanying map will show the parcels that each of the 9 children received.

Unless one had lived in those precarious times, he cannot appreciate the value of an inheritance of this kind. Eighty acres of fine, cleared, drained farm land -- what a heritage. It was just like setting them all up in business. This amount of land would support a large family in fine shape for those times. The amount of backbreaking labor that went into the clearing and draining of this land was enormous. It cannot be understood and appreciated by our present standards. When our forefathers came into the country, it was covered with a dense growth of hardwood forests through which the sun barely penetrated. Parts of the land were swampy, which required drainage ditches. It took several years to cut down the trees and burn out the stumps before the land could be planted. When we consider that our ancestors accomplished this on 720 acres of land, more or less, it was a colossal task. No doubt, they had some help. This was begun in 1843, and John passed away in 1856, a short span of only 13 years, the last few of which he was, no doubt, somewhat feeble. They were wonderful people.

Prepared by Cousin George Speer  
with help from  
William Husselman.  
Waterloo, Indiana - 1952.



## THE OLD BARN

The history of our family would not be complete without mention of the old barn built by Grandfather John Ulrich in 1844, the year after he came to Indiana. It stood across the road (7th Street) from the old home. There was a well in the barnyard and an old wooden, hand-made pump. This barn still stands and has been in use for the past 108 years. This is a monument to grandfather and testifies that he built well and honestly.

This barn was one of the first to be built in the county. Only the best timbers were used. They were selected with care, and no doubt, came from John's own land. There have been new roofs and new siding put on the barn, but the timbers are still strong today. The barn measures forty by eighty feet. The center floor timber is ten by twenty inches and forty feet long. There is an eight-foot basement and this timber supports the main floor of the barn. The other floor supports are twelve by fourteen timbers, running the full eighty feet of the length of the structure. The floor joists are eight by twelve inches in size.

There was a granary boarded up with sawed poplar boards some 30 inches in width. The frame work in this barn would build 3 barns today, but perhaps they would not last as long as this one. The timbers were of Black Walnut, Oak and White Ash. The corner posts were sixteen by sixteen inches. All these timbers were hand hewn. The rafters were four by six inches.

The roof was originally of hand split shakes. The siding was square edged poplar boards of random widths, nailed vertically on the frame. I'll bet there was not a better barn in northern Indiana in the days when it was new. Grandfather was, no doubt, one to take excellent care of his stock. In Switzerland they kept the stock in the home and slept upstairs. Here he made sure they were well taken care of during the long cold winters.

May the old barn last forever as a symbol of the spirit and resourcefulness of our ancestors.

Prepared by Cousin George Walker Speer  
Waterloo, Indiana - 1952.





## OTHER INTERESTING ITEMS

In the numerous letters received from members of the family and others, there are many interesting incidents portrayed. These have definite significance and should be narrated. The following paragraphs have no connection with each other, but are included to make the history more complete.

You will note that this has been placed at the end of the book with a reason. Should any of the relatives wish to add some notes or clippings of their own, they may do so. Additional pages have been provided for pasting clippings and letters that they might wish to keep with the history.

There have been two parties who have been interested in a family history. A Dr. Fayette C. Eshelman of Hazelton, Pa., was in correspondence some years ago with several members of our family. I learned upon writing that he had passed away some ten years ago and his data are in the hands of the Lancaster Historical Society at Lancaster, Pa. His widow, Bess S. Eshelman, resides at 134 West Magnolia St., Hazelton, Pa. I have contacted the Historical Society and have been unable to establish any connection between his family and ours.

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Mr. Ira Eshelman of 2001 South Main St., Elkhart, Indiana, has been working for many years collecting information on the Eshelman family and all its branches. He has been given our data to some extent by members of the family. However, he has been unable to prove in his correspondence any direct connection between his groups and ours.

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Every effort has been made to trace down the date of birth of John Ulrich and Maria Ebberhart Ashleman. The mayors of Basle and Bern have been written and both replied they can offer no information. This would lead to the assumption they were born, not in Basle, but in some small town nearby. The Swiss authorities suggested that the name may have been spelled Aeschlimann. This is reasonable, no doubt. I was given the name of Arthur Hanne by the Swiss Council in Los Angeles, as a man who could help me in my search for data on the old folks. When he was contacted, he wanted one hundred dollars to get this information. It was deemed too high a price and the matter dropped.

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It might be in order to mention something about the name Maria. We know this was her right name as we have an old paper signed by her. However, when she came to America this name was changed to Mary, no doubt by her friends who used the American adaptation. Her maiden name was Ebberhart and this was changed or Americanized to Everhart. There are a great many Ashelmans and Ashlemans throughout Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. There are more who spell the name Eshelman. Note that the descendants of Moses all spell their names with the "E" before the "L".



Cousin George Speer owns some very fine old books on DeKalb County and Indiana. He very graciously made these available and they have been a source of much detailed data in assembling the history.

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In one of these histories it is related that when John and Maria left the old country, at the beginning of their trip, John's trunk was robbed and his money stolen. We know, too, that when he arrived in Ohio he bought two parcels of land, in 1833, for which paid \$670.00 in cash. We know also that he went to Indiana in 1836 and bought two parcels of 160 acres each and one of 80 acres at \$1.25 per acre, a total of \$500.00. The question comes to mind, how did he do this if he was without funds? Either he had money in Switzerland which he draw upon or he had good credit. He may have been just canny and smart enough to put only a small portion of his funds in his trunk when he left Switzerland. I like to think this was the case.

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There is a story that I have received from Pearl and Angus McCoy that, to my mind, is most interesting. It may be familiar to others in the family, but I am not sure to all. It is to be regretted that the story cannot be followed up and verified. If true, and if it could proven in a court of law, there would be a tremendous fortune to be divided up among the family. The story goes that Maria had a brother who operated and may have owned a steamship or a line of ships that plyed between Hamburg and New York. We do not know the name of this brother. He acquired considerable property in New York and it is described as covering one or more blocks. Maria had been in correspondence with him after she arrived in America. There was a bad fire on this property, and as her brother was never heard of thereafter, it was supposed that he perished in this fire. The property should have gone to Maria, as his heir, but no doubt, reverted to the city of New York. It is interesting to speculate what might have been the family's fortunes, had this property been acquired by Maria.

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The property in East Auburn where the Eckhart Carriage Co. was located was part of the original inheritance of Moses. He built a brick home on the north-east corner of this land. After Barbara Ellen married Charles Eckhart, they moved to Pennsylvania for several years. In 1873, they moved back to Indiana and Barbara Ellen traded her inheritance of 80 acres, which was east of William's land, to Moses for this two story home and five acres. Charles built his first buggy in the parlor of this brick house. The family lived there for about twenty years. In the meantime, the Eckhart Carriage factory grew in size until it became one of the major industries of Auburn. The old home was used as the office for the company until the factory was sold. This was about 1918. The house was remodeled and is used as a residence today.

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A letter from Cousin Lona Krum says, "My mother, Mary Ellen Carmer, used to tell me that she used to walk from her home farm east of town to the Eckharts to take care of the children while Barbara Ellen helped Uncle Charles sew on buggy cushions. She said the children were well behaved."







George Speer writes, "My grandmother, Anna Walker, was employed at different times sewing buggy cushions for the Eckhart buggies." Several other men of the family were employed, at one time or another, in the factory. Lyman was a striper and William was a trimmer. They worked for years until the company was sold. Later, they worked at the Auburn Auto Co.

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A note from Aunt Winnie Brandon gives us the following: "I remember this little bit of what my mother, Mary Raut, told me about my grandfather. John wanted to take a load of wheat to Fort Wayne on a Sunday to be ground into flour. Grandmother did not want him to do this. He went anyway, and broke his leg on the trip. I suppose she said 'I told you so'".

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There is another story similar to this. The seed corn was stored in the second story of the house. Evidently, at first a ladder was used to get up there and later steps were built. John was quite old and feeble at the time of this story. He insisted upon climbing up to get the corn, much against the advice of the others. They tried to dissuade him, but he climbed up anyway, fell and broke his leg. There must have been some connection between these stories. John must have been a man very "set in his ways." From all the information I can gather, he was "boss man" all the time. I'll bet he was a cantankerous old chap, all right.

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Cousin Charles Brandon, grandson of Aunt Mary Raut, sends some interesting statistics which he has figured out from the chart of dates in the front of the book. He says, "Grestgrandfather John was born only fifteen years after the Minutemen fired the first shot at Lexington. The Ashleman children were especially tenacious of life, discounting Moses and William who died at comparatively early ages of 54 and 69, respectively. The seven Ashleman daughters lived an average of 83 years each. With the plague and pestilence prevalent in those days, and lacking today's medical advantages, this is a remarkable record. The average marriage date of the girls was 26. The average of all the children was just a little younger."

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Cousin Grace Weaver Hibbs writes, "Grandma Weaver used to tell us of many happenings in her young life out on the farm, near the old Eckhart Buggy plant. She said there were wolves and bears in the woods. The girls had to go after the cows and bring them in at night. They would run all the way, as they were so frightened at the bears and wolves. Aunt Mary Raut and Grandmother Weaver both had a nervousness, a sort of shaking, that stayed with them all their life. They said it was caused from this fright."

Cousin Grace's daughter, Ethelwyn Dills, also mentions this in one of her letters. She says, "Here's a story that grandmother has told us many time, the only one of her childhood I remember. She said, 'Our house was surrounded by a high fence so that the wolves, bears and snakes could not come close to our house. The fence was higher than my head, and there was enough room inside to gather in all of the animals, mostly cows.



'The girls, myself and my sisters, had to go after the animals and drive them into the sheltered area at sunset. When it was my turn, I ran all the way, both ways, as I was very frightened of the snakes, wolves and bears. I can't remember that I ever wore shoes, even in the winter. I particularly dreaded going out in the snow, as I was always so cold when I returned'."

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A few of the personal belongings of the old folks, brought from the old country, are still in possession of the family today. Alice Walker Speer of Waterloo has the old Dutch Bible that was printed in 1747. To quote her, "It is the only thing I have from my folks except a little black shawl with fringe on it. The leather on the Bible is well preserved, and it has two little metal clips at the edge to lock it. The book leaked when they came over and the back pages show watermarks."

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Cousin Pearl McCoy has a fine old green velvet swallow-tailed coat with silver buttons. This was no doubt John's best suit. She also has a repeater watch and music box that she thinks came from Switzerland. Uncle Christopher has worn the coat to some of the Ashleman reunions in the past. My father, Frank Eckhart, once wore this coat to a costume party in Auburn when I was a boy. I remember it well.

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Frank Everhart Eckhart has an old Swiss clock that came over with the folks. It is a classic type with 4 marble pillars in the front. Above the face is a hand painted scene. It keeps excellent time.

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The following comes from Cousin Clyde Ashleman, "I have a gold link chain that is an heirloom. It was originally 48 inches long and each link was soldered separately. It has a diamond slide on it. The chain is to be handed down from the eldest son to the eldest son of the line. I regret to say that when my mother gave it to me she had removed the diamond slide and about eight inches of the chain. With this exception, it is intact and will be left with instructions to follow the tradition that goes with it."

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I understand that Cousin Nellie Kimmel has an old grandfather clock that was in the family for years. I do not believe it came from Switzerland.

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Cousin Pearl has an old letter written by Aunt Regina Weaver from Pennsylvania to her husband in Auburn. She was visiting her sister, Barbara Ellen, at the time and was homesick to get back to Indiana. Shortly after this, the Eckharts, themselves, moved back to stay.





Cousin Lona writes, and I quote, "Just the clearing of the land and the obstacles to be overcome at first would have defeated most of us now. There are few who have the pioneering spirit in this push-button age, very few. John and his family labored long hours in the hot summer days, as well as in the spring and the fall. He was a determined man with a single purpose, that of founding a home and a family, and he had chosen a good helpmate in Maria. Both were thrifty. They handed down qualities of industry and the will to succeed, of which we, their descendants, can be proud. His crops were not insured against the ravages of nature and were not subsidized by a paternal government. He was a free man in a free land. He had a comparatively short life, but when he laid down his burden, he could do so with a clear conscience."

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Cousin Ethelwyn writes again of her Grandmother, Aunt Regina, "She had a locket which she gave me when I was about 16 years of age. It contained a picture of she and her husband, taken, I should judge, when she was about thirty years of age. Every year grandmother had a basket of eggs for Easter time. They were colored with coffee and were a dark brown. Then, with a knife, she scratched intricate designs on them. They were beautifully done and I have never seen anyone do that sort of thing since. It may have been a Swiss custom."

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From Cousin Lona again, "I do not think Grandmother Maria nor Grandfather John had much humor in their makeup. This is easy to understand. The Swiss are a rather serious lot, even today, minding their own affairs very well. This lack of humor, I believe, was a characteristic of most of the sons and daughters. If I am wrong, I will be gladly set right. All that I knew was they saw very plainly the gravity of life and were rather sad of countenance. I believe that grandfather was very fair in his dealings with everyone, and they both were highly respected in the countryside."

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I wonder if everyone knows Uncle Jerry Carmer had one of the Auburn Fire Department horses named after him. It is true. This comes from his daughter, Esther Mason.

She has sent me another little item that we can all be amused at. Andrew Jackson Carmer was hit upon the head and robbed in his farmyard while doing the chores. He suffered a bad concussion and as a result, a silver plate was inserted in his head. A nerve in his brain was affected, and until the time of his death, he was very lame. When he died he was buried in a bricked up vault. Dynamite was placed on his grave in such a way as to blow up anyone trying to disturb him. There was some idea in the family that the doctors would try to steal the body to examine it. This was somewhat of a common practice in those days to rob graves.



Cousin Lona writes again, "You might care to know that Uncle Jerry and Aunt Nora Carmer had a foster child, Maude Henry Lawry, now of Washington, D.C. She has a daughter, Margaret, who is the wife of a prominent and well known minister named Melvin Eckenroth. He is a missionary and represents the Seventh Day Adventist faith."

Also from Cousin Lona, "Hcminy could be mentioned for food. I suppose they had roasting ears in the summer, and no doubt, field corn. Of course, they had to make their own soap from lye made from the ashes. The tucks, ruffles and the amount of material for the women's dresses would give pause to a modern woman. They wove much of their own woolen material and made their own rag carpets. They had a stove or two, besides the 2 fireplaces. Their's was a very nice home for that time. Grandmother did a lot of spinning, cooking, churning, baking bread, pies, cakes and cookies, sewing, gardening and tending babies. She made apple butter in the big iron kettle outdoors. She dried corn apples, cherries, string beans, and plums. One wonders when she had time to sleep. Grandmother had a lot of home doctoring to do. Home medicines kept the family in good health. Herbs found in the woods were the source of many remedies. In early times, each mother kept a notebook of remedies and recipes which would cure everything, not exactly critical. These remedies were exchanged and sometimes they bought a Doctor Book."

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The entire family are indebted to Mr. Charles Reinoehl of College Station, Texas, for the generous help he has given in proof reading and suggestions for make-up and arrangement of this manuscript. Mr. Reinoehl became interested in Family Histories some years ago, and in 1950, contacted George Eckhart asking him to assist in a History of the Eckhart Family.

Mr. Reinoehl's mother was an Eckhart from Kendallville, Ind. She was a cousin of Charles Eckhart. It was the preparation of this Eckhart history that prompted George Eckhart to write the Ashleman family. When this history was ready to be mimeographed, Mr. Reinoehl very generously offered his services in checking the book. He has unearthed several errors and has made suggestions about the make-up that are an improvement over the original. He is an Emeritus Professor of Education, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He lives now by the Texas A & M College at College Station, Texas. Our very great thanks to him for this contribution.



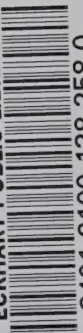








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